Let 4M youths vote, Gloria urges Comelec

STORY ON PAGE A2

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph
website: www.inquirer.net
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 7, 2001 ★★ 66 PAGES 6 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 89 ₱15

Gloria, Cabinet to eat beef in public

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo and her Cabinet will go on a beef-eating roadshow to reassure the public that the country is safe from mad cow disease.

"My Cabinet members and I will be eating beef in various public places in order to assure

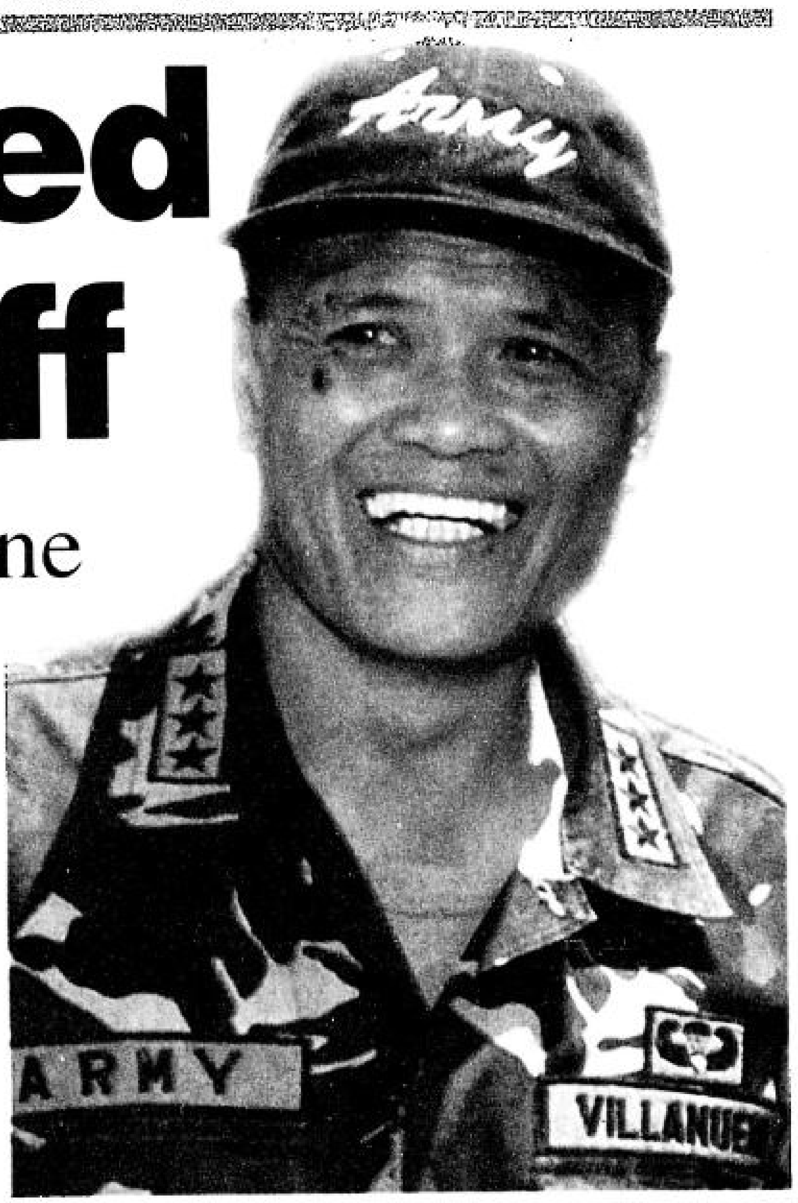
GLORIA/ A6

JV: Gloria officials want Erap to go

JV EJERCITO, a son of deposed President Estrada, said senior officials of President Macapagal had been convincing his father to leave the country. Justice Secretary Hernando Perez was reportedly one of the officials. Ejercito said his father and his family decided to stay put in the country to defend themselves against black propaganda. Ms Macapagal, however, said the government would "never, never" allow Estrada to leave. *AFP*

Villanueva named AFP chief of staff

Macapagal says the decision was hers alone



TOP GUN of the 113,000-strong AFP: Lt. Gen. Diomedio Villanueva led the massive campaign last year against the MILF that captured more than 40 Moro rebel camps, including its headquarters, Camp Abubakar. EDWIN BACASMAS

BY ARMAND N. NOCUM AND CARLITO PABLO

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday announced that she had picked Army commander Lt. Gen. Diomedio Villanueva as the next Armed Forces chief of staff, ending bitter wrangling among the contenders.

The President made the surprise announcement at her weekly press conference in Malacañang, saying that Villanueva was her "very, very early choice" because she believed that only he could unite the AFP.

She said it was "a judgment call" that no one could question.

Villanueva, 54, was the military's top gun in Mindanao when Joseph Estrada, Ms Macapagal's disgraced predecessor, launched an all-out war last year against the secessionist Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

He will succeed Gen. Angelo Reyes, who is scheduled to retire on March 17.

"I am happy for the designation and I will continue the vision of General Reyes for the military," Villanueva said.

"I will also see to it that transparency reigns in all transactions," he added, referring to the accusations of corruption currently rocking the military.

The Associated Press also quoted him as saying: "It's an uphill battle. You have to hit the ground running because there are so many problems and issues . . . waiting."

The President said two other contenders for the post, perceived

VILLANUEVA/ A18

A CONFIDENT Eduardo Cojuangco, UCPB chair, with his lawyer Estelito Mendoza after a restraining order postponed a meeting on Tuesday of the bank's stockholders. JOHNNY VILLENA

SMC NEXT?

Danding suffers setback over control of UCPB

BY ROCKY NAZARENO AND DORIS C. DUMLAO

BUSINESSMAN Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco's hold over food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. once again hangs in the balance.

The Supreme Court yesterday temporarily restored the government's right to vote the sequestered 95 percent shares of United Coconut Planters Bank, boosting the Macapagal administration's bid to unseat Cojuangco as San Miguel chair.

The new administration, through the Presidential Commission on Good Government, plans to wrest control of UCPB to boot Cojuangco out of San Miguel. The bank administers a 27-percent stake in San Miguel, a sizeable block of shares that could determine the composition of the conglomerate's board of directors during its annual stockholders' meeting in May.

But Cojuangco, a supporter of disgraced President Joseph Estrada, told reporters he remained confident he could block attempts by the new administration to oust him from his post.

"I don't think the (Supreme Court ruling involving the UCPB shares) will affect it (San Miguel) much," Cojuangco said.

"We feel we have enough outside stockholders to maintain the (San Miguel) board that we have today, but that is our opinion. They (the government) have a different opinion," he said.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday granted Solicitor General Simeon Marcelo's petition for a temporary restraining order on a Sandiganbayan decision removing from the PCGG the right to vote the sequestered UCPB shares.

In a 28-page petition, Marcelo said the anti-graft court on Feb. 28 "improperly issued the order" giving UCPB's stockholders—made up mostly of Cojuangco and his allies—the right to vote the shares.

"The court further resolved to require the parties to maintain the status quo existing before the issu-

DANDING/ A6

Military officers ordered: Don't wash dirty linen in media

BY CARLITO PABLO

ARMED Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes has ordered all officers and men of the AFP to stop exposing cases of irregularities and misconduct in the military through the media.

Speaking yesterday at a press conference, Reyes said airing such cases was "unethical" and "unfortunate" because "sometimes there are people who are maligned."

He issued the gag order following a series of disclosures of financial irregularities made by former Navy chief Rear Adm. Guillermo Wong and Marine Lt. Gen. Edgardo Espinosa.

Reyes had earlier gagged Wong, whose relief was demanded by angry Marine officers and who was subsequently forced to relinquish his command.

According to Reyes, the AFP's Code of Ethics considers as "one of the unethical acts" the practice of

MILITARY/ A18

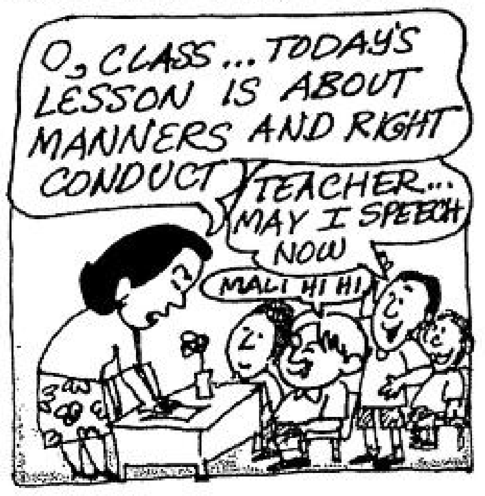
PPC bets learn winning tips in 'finishing school'

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA

SOLITA "Winnie" Monsod should not slouch. No Hawaiian shirts and cyber-talk for Ramon Magsaysay Jr. Ralph Recto should not wear shorts on campaign sorties. Wipe off that shine on the face of Frank Drilon. Manuel Villar must tailor his speech to his audience. Francis Pangilinan needs more "fire." Joker Arroyo should not be clumsy with his speeches. And Liway Chato has no "star quality."

Most of all, say something good and substantial.

PPC/ A18



O, CLASS ... TODAY'S LESSON IS ABOUT MANNERS AND RIGHT CONDUCT
TEACHER... MAY I SPEECH NOW
MALI HI HI

Wait until March 23, SC tells Ani

BY ROCKY NAZARENO AND MICHAEL LIM UBAC

THE SUPREME Court yesterday rejected a petition of Ombudsman Aniano Desierto that would have allowed him to immediately file plunder charges against ousted President Joseph Estrada with the Sandiganbayan.

The ruling means that Estrada cannot be charged until March 23, or after the lapse of the high court's 30-day temporary restraining order suspending the filing of criminal cases against Estrada.

The Supreme Court said the suspension could not be lifted because

WAIT/ A6

NBI places Erap under 24-hour surveillance

NINTH plunder case against Estrada is based on the affidavits of, from left, Willy Ocier of Belle Resources Corp., former GSIS president Federico Pascual, former SSS chair Carlos Arellano who swear before Ombudsman Desierto and Justice Secretary Hernando Perez. ERIK ARAZAS

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC AND TJ BURGONIO

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has placed ousted President Joseph Estrada on a 24-hour surveillance to prevent him from fleeing the country.

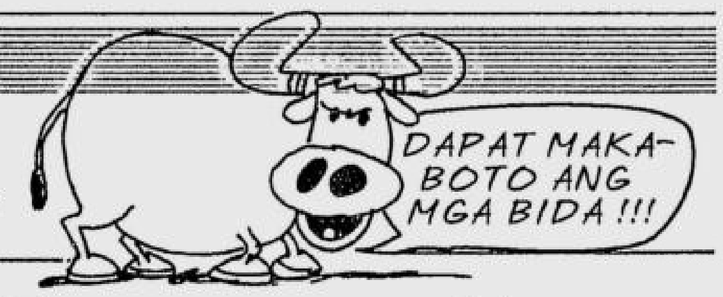
"NBI agents are monitoring all possible exit points, particularly the backdoor routes," NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco said.

In Mindanao, Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling has ordered the sealing off of all exit points to ensure that Estrada cannot use any of its airports and seaports in leaving the country.

After the Supreme Court issued a ruling upholding the legitimacy of the Macapagal presidency and

NBI/ A6

Second FRONT PAGE



Prove DQ case, Adaza told

SENATORIAL candidate Homobono Adaza will have to submit evidence to prove his disqualification case against 15 other senatorial candidates whom he accused of violating regulations on campaign posters.

Jose Balbuena, law department chief of the Commission on Elections, said the Comelec would subpoena the 15 respondent candidates once Adaza, lone candidate of the Nacionalista Party, had submitted evidence like pictures, sample posters and witnesses.

"If there is a complaint, there should be evidence," Balbuena said.

Adaza on Monday filed a complaint with the Comelec against the 15 candidates for violation of Section 85 of the Omnibus Election Code which prohibits the posting or display of any election propaganda "in any place whether public or private except in common poster areas."

Named respondents in the complaint were senatorial candidates Franklin Drilon, Wigberto Tañada, Ralph Recto, Ernesto Herrera, Liwayway Vinzons-Chato, Manuel Villar, Francisco Pangilinan and Roberto Pagdanganan, all of the People Power Coalition; and opposition candidates Miriam Defensor-Santiago, Panfilo Lacson, Loi Ejercito, Ricardo Puno, Orlando Mercado, Juan Ponce Enrile and Noli de Castro.

Adaza also noted that the posters of the 15 respondent candidates do not bear the names and addresses of the printer and payor as required under Section 84 of the Omnibus Election Code.

Adaza, a former immigration chief, said the violations "are of common public knowledge and the Comelec can officially take notice of these violations."

"Until today, no publicized statement has been made by the Comelec that it is conducting an investigation on these wanton violations," Adaza said.

"If they cannot enforce the Election Code, what is the use of holding senatorial elections when we will be electing shameless candidates who will wantonly violate the law?" said the former immigration chief.

Gerald G. Lacuarta

Let 4M youths vote, Gloria urges Comelec

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday urged the Commission on Elections to allow some four million youths to take part in May's national elections, the results of which are seen as a referendum on her new government.

"Some four million 18-year-old youth old enough to die for their country will not be able to vote in the May election. The reasons are tragic," the President said in a news briefing.

The 18-year-olds, who make up five percent of the national population of 76 million and 11 percent of the 40 million-strong electorate, were to have been eligible to vote for the first time but had neglected to register in their precincts late last year.

The Comelec has ruled out extending the deadline, citing lack of funds. The President lamented that "the four million youths were thus disenfranchised."

She urged the politically independent commission to reconsider its ruling, saying her government would "see to it" that funding requirements for a special registration would be met.

Too much at stake

She added, "I must say that too much is at stake here. Now, therefore, is the time to look for legal remedies and sources of funds so that never again will the youth be disenfranchised.

"I repeat, the failure of the first-time voters to cast their vote in the May elections will not happen again. This is a commitment to democracy itself," she said.

It would be "tragic" if the 18-year-olds were deprived of suffrage, she added.

A group representing the youths has asked the Supreme Court to compel the commission to allow them to vote.

Ms Macapagal said she had ordered "Malacañang's legal officers to study the matter, and if necessary, assist them" in filing the necessary cases in court.

She said this would ensure that the high tribunal would "rule that the youth indeed should participate in the May elections."

The President had earlier praised the youths for playing a crucial role in January's military-backed popular uprising that toppled her predecessor Joseph Estrada.

Edsa spearhead

Student activists, in their hundreds of thousands, had spearheaded mass street protests and rallies for four days leading to the ousting of Estrada on Jan. 20.

President Macapagal enjoys a strong backing from students and their votes are crucial to helping the ruling party's senatorial and congressional candidates in May's polls.

Also yesterday, students and youth groups in Baguio City and the Cordillera have joined the nationwide clamor for the extension of registration for first-time voters.

Joe Licauen, a member of the Progressive Igorots for Social Action (Pigsa), said Igorot youths in the Cordillera failed to register last year because they were busy helping in their families' farms.

Licauen said the registration had been centralized in the rural centers and urban areas which the youths rarely visit because of farm activities.

Licauen, a member of the Sadanga tribe in Sadanga, Mt. Province, said most young Igorots in the Cordillera hinterlands were out-of-school youths busy tilling the fields.

"With their farming activities, they would rather work to earn a living instead of going to the Commission on Elections office and register," Licauen said.

Most of the time, these young farmers had to walk four to six hours just to reach village and town centers, said Licauen.

Plight of youth

Voltaire Tupaz, chair of the National Union of Students of the Philippines Baguio-Benguet chapter, said the government should consider the plight of young Filipinos who have failed to register.

Jennifer Gonzales, chair of the Gabriela-Youth in the Cordillera, said most election-related activities were limited to the central areas of towns and provinces, resulting in the exclusion of youths in rural areas.

Records from the Comelec regional branch office here showed that 622,539 voters registered in the Cordillera on Dec.27 last year, the deadline for the continuing registration.

New registrants increased by about 20,000 since the 1998 national elections, records showed.

People Power Coalition senatorial candidate Wigberto Tañada supported the clamor for a special registration, saying the huge number of unregistered youth could make or break efforts to push for an issue-based elections and for "new politics."

"The meaningful role of the youth in Edsa People Power II has to be given recognition," Tañada said in a statement. "Our youth, more than any other sector, are at the forefront of the struggle for good governance and for politics that is based on issues and not personalities." *AFP, Armand Nocum and Desiree Caluza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Youth groups to rally today for right to vote

By Gerald G. Lacuarta

IT could be People Power III at the Commission on Elections.

Youth members of the party-list group Akbayan will camp out at the Comelec main office in Intramuros starting at 1 p.m. today to press the poll body into holding a special registration for first-time voters who failed to register on Dec. 27

Ruben Carranza, Akbayan counsel and University of the Philippines law professor, said the group will also circulate a "motion to intervene" for signing by new voters aged 18 and up who failed register, estimated at around four million nationwide. The motion stated that the Comelec failed to "perform its duty under the law and the Constitution to effectively inform them (voters) of their right to do so."

"An overwhelming majority of these unregistered voters are young Filipinos who have never voted before," Carranza said.

Carranza said the motion will allow disenfranchised first-time voters to be "party petitioners" in the petition for "extraordinary writs of *certiorari* and *mandamus*" filed by Akbayan against the Comelec before the Supreme Court on Monday. In the petition, Akbayan asked the tribunal to annul and set aside a Comelec resolution dated Feb. 7 and direct the poll body to conduct a registration of new voters before the May 14 elections.

The Comelec en banc on Feb. 7 denied the request of several youth groups to conduct a two-day additional registration of new voters on Feb. 17 and 18 this year, citing Republic Act 8189 or the Voters' Registration Act of 1996 which prohibits registration of voters 120 days before any election.

But Carranza said "the right of suffrage is a constitutional right and should therefore prevail over a law that only regulates the exercise of that right by requiring registration."

Carranza cited the constitutional provision which "recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and directs the State to encourage the youth's involvement in public and civic affairs."

"The denial of the youth's right of suffrage violates these constitutional policies," he said.

Carranza said President Macapagal-Arroyo had already said she was willing to release funds from the Office of the President to bankroll a registration of new voters. Only 282,482 new voters out of the 4.1 million youths who reached the voting age of 18 were able to register on Dec. 27.

"I welcome that offer, however, the Comelec itself must decide to hold the registration and somehow find a way to justify it despite R.A. 8189,or the Supreme Court itself orders the Comelec to do so despite R.A. 8189," Carranza said.

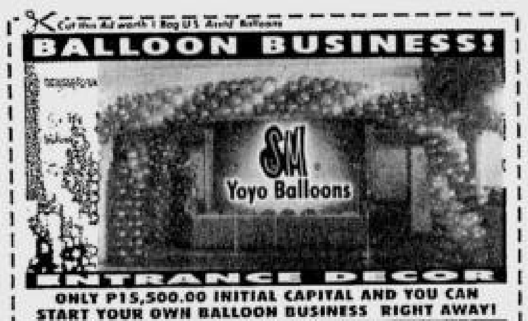
Wanted: .5M poll watchdog volunteers

THE CHURCH-BASED Parish Pastoral Council for Responsible Voting headed by former Comelec chair Haydee Yorac aims to mobilize some half a million volunteers when it takes on the task of a citizen's watchdog group in the coming national and local elections.

The PPCRV yesterday announced that it would soon have its accreditation from the Commission on Elections.

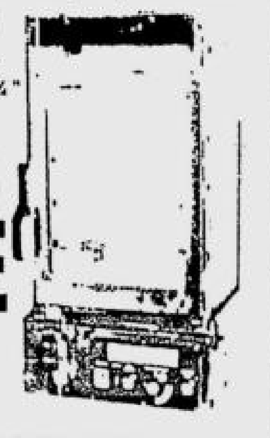
"Comelec chair (Alfredo) Benipayo has assured us that our accreditation will be released to us next week. The Comelec is very busy these past few days so that's understandable," said Ruel Saniel, PPCRV media officer.

Saniel said PPCRV, the Church's poll watching and voter's education arm, will be distributing the IDs, provided by the Comelec, to the volunteer poll watchers through the Catholic Church's 79 dioceses nationwide.


BALLOON BUSINESS!
Yoyo Balloons
ENTRANCE DECOR
ONLY P15,500.00 INITIAL CAPITAL AND YOU CAN START YOUR OWN BALLOON BUSINESS RIGHT AWAY!
INCLUDES:
- Starter Kit-More than 1,200 Impt. U.S. Balloons (Different Sizes, Colors & Shapes)
- Balloon Pumps, (Big and Small)
- Balloon Printing Set
- Balloon Sticks and Cups, Clip Sticks
- Training Workshop Conducted by U.S. Trained Balloon Experts
  - Certificate, Free Lunch and Snack
  - Pictures, Brochures and more
- OPTIONAL: Imported Electric Inflator - P7,200.00 each
WE WILL SHOW YOU HOW WITH OUR FREE WORKSHOP!
SURRENDER THIS AD WHEN YOU PAY AND WE WILL GIVE YOU FREE 1 BAG ASSTD. BALLOONS IMPORTED FROM U.S. VALID UNTIL 31 MARCH 2001!
Call or Visit: YOYO BALLOONS
10-D Xaviervilla Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City, Philippines
Tel. Nos.: 922-5543 • 426-2973 • 920-1440 • Fax: 922-0068
YOU CAN USE YOUR OWN TRADE NAME! NO NEED TO PAY ANY FRANCHISE FEE!

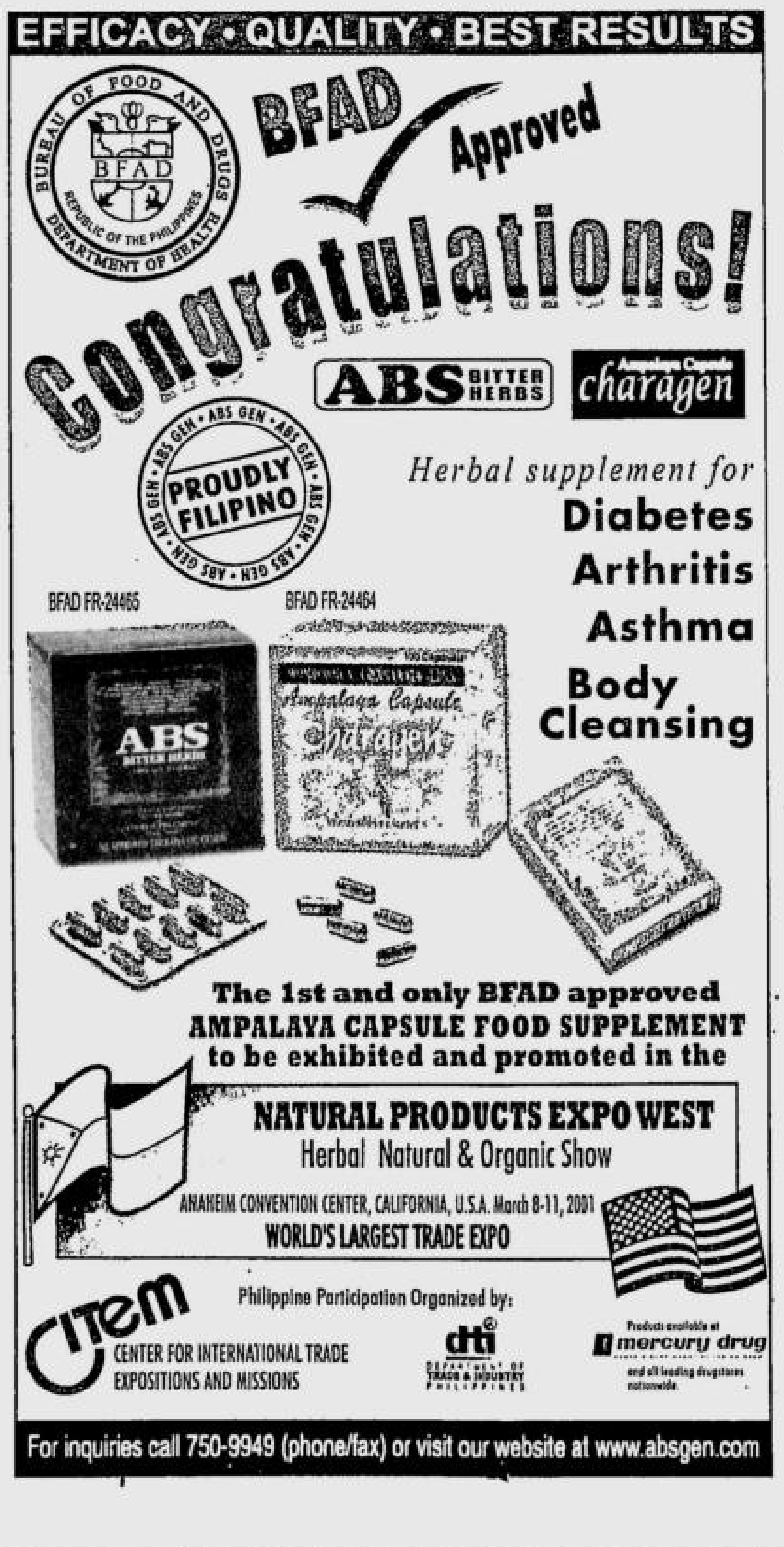
Pure Caffeine
- 100% Pure Natural
- Extracted from Tea Leaves
- Best for Energy Drinks
- Available in Powder Form
Distributed by Green TeaCaff Ent.
Tel. No. 645-41-14

GO WITH THE NAME YOU KNOW!
Study at
VERNON TAPALLA'S
COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALISTS and THE WRITING INSTITUTE
CP 1 On Speech Improvement, Effective Self-Presentations & Personality Development
CP 2 On Grammar & Conversational English
CP 3 On Public Speaking & Leadership Training
WP 1 On Business & Technical Writing
Private Tutoring and Corporate Training are Available
MAKATI - 845-0886 / 753-1048 to 49
ALABANG - 850-4756 / 850-4757
QUEZON CITY - 372-4914 / 372-4915


Steamer for Siopao, Siomai and Dimsum
Available in 2 sizes:
19 ½" x 15 ½" x 29 ¾" Cap:75 siopao
15" x 15 ½" x 29 ¾" Cap: 45 siopao
SALE
Stainless. Hygienic. Durable.
--Call 6371808 / 651-1472 to 75--

Somewhere in the Guimaras Islands lies a hidden treasure ...
Costa Aguada
ISLAND RESORT
Inampulugan Island, Guimaras, Philippines
EASTER HOLIDAY
P5,110/person/DBL
(3 Days/2 Nights accom./land & sea transfers/daily buffet blast & buffet dinner/1 picnic lunch/tram tour/jungle trek/fishing and MORE)
* Validity April 11 - 16, 2001
See your travel agent or call:
G/F Oppen Bldg
349 Sen. Gil Puyat Ext., Makati City
Tels. 8965422 • 7523688
8905333 loc. 615/616
Telefax: (632) 8905543
Email Address: ariinc@evoserve.com
WEBSITE: http://www.costa.com.ph
Bacolod Office:
131 25th St., cor. Gatuslao
Bacolod City
Tel. (034) 4344543 • 4337373
Fax: (034) 4344541
DOT # R-R6-AA-010-2000

Order on-line!
www.officeclub.com.ph
Visit our website, check out from hundreds of office products and supplies. Those without Internet please call: 244-7211 • Fax 243-1875
e-mail: sales@officeclub.com.ph
Showroom at: #344 Nueva St. Binondo, Manila
MAX JAPAN
MAX ELECTRONIC CHECK WRITER 5,495.00
SMALL OFFICE TIME RECORDER 8,795.00
Free delivery within Metro Manila No Minimum Order.* COD order accepted
* A P 20.00 handling fee will be charged for orders worth P 100.00 & below


EFFICACY • QUALITY • BEST RESULTS
BFAD Approved
Congratulations!
ABS BITTER HERBS
charagen
PROUDLY FILIPINO
Herbal supplement for
Diabetes
Arthritis
Asthma
Body Cleansing
BFAD FR-24465
BFAD FR-24464
The 1st and only BFAD approved AMPALAYA CAPSULE FOOD SUPPLEMENT to be exhibited and promoted in the
NATURAL PRODUCTS EXPO WEST
Herbal Natural & Organic Show
ANAHEIM CONVENTION CENTER, CALIFORNIA, U.S.A. March 8-11, 2001
WORLD'S LARGEST TRADE EXPO
Philippine Participation Organized by:
CITEM CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE EXPOSITIONS AND MISSIONS
dti DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES
Products available at mercury drug and all leading drugstores nationwide.
For inquiries call 750-9949 (phone/fax) or visit our website at www.absgen.com

BESTSELLING
RICOH COPIERS
P 23,000. ONLY
RICOH FT 2260 220V, 60 Hz
P 11,000. ONLY
RICOH 780 / 810 220V, 60 Hz
NOW AVAILABLE
KATUN COMPATIBLE TONERS & PARTS FOR USE IN Canon, Sharp, Toshiba, Mita, Etc.
100% GUARANTEED
COPYTRADE®
Copytrade Bldg. 550 Mt. Jackson St. Sampaloc Manila. Nr. NU.
Tels. 749-8155 to 56 • 781-3472 • 749-8216
Prov'l Dealers: Cabanatuan 463-3415 • Cebu 253-2402 • Baliuag (0919)837-1080 • Tarlac (0919)842-5559
E-mail: copytrade.com@pacific.net.ph

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT
Did you know that you NEVER have to throw away your old BHAGWAN INSTANT SHOWER HEATERS? No matter how old, parts are always available and they can be made as good as new WHILE YOU WAIT, as they're made to last A HUNDRED YEARS!!
Cold mornings are still here, so take advantage of our latest Golden Electronic & Automatic Models, Durability of which you can trust. Our Super strong Shower Heaters are at very reasonable prices & comes w/ FREE Shower Head or Hand Shower Sets.
Book your orders for FREE delivery or FREE Installation at Tel. Nos. 712-0788/712-0799.
We also accept your old manual heater for conversion to automatic type.
For Free Demonstration, visit:
BHAGWAN HEATER CORP.
75 Sto. Domingo St., Quezon City
9:00am - 12:30pm / 1:00-5:30 pm
MON to SAT

FOR MORE POWER! LESS FUEL!
NODALOS FREE-FLOW FORCE
HEADERS
For HONDA CIVIC
Hurry! Feel The Power Now.
Also Available For Other Brands And Models!
SPORTS PACKAGE
INTRODUCTORY PRICE:
- HEADERS ..... P 2,500.00/set
- HEADERS combined w/ STAINLESS SPORTS MUFFLERS SERIES 1 ... P 5,500.00 / Package (Save P 500.00 - Orig. Sport Package Price is P 6,000.00)
- HEADERS combined w/ STAINLESS SPORTS MUFFLERS SERIES 2 ... P 6,400.00 / Package (Save P 600.00 - Orig. Power Package Price is P 7,000.00)
Designed for multi-valve engines, like the powerful V-TEC technology of Honda Civic. Expect a 20% increase in road horsepower if combined with NODALOS Super Sports Mufflers plus decrease in your fuel consumptions.
SOON TO OPEN Nodalos Motor Town Alabang Town Center
NODALOS OUTLETS
HEAD OFFICE: #3268 Gen. Lacuna St., Bangkal, Makati City, Phils. • Website: www.nodalos.com.ph
Tel. Nos.: 843-2431 • 843-4220 • Fax No.: 889-0288 • CP Nos.: (0917) 3839800 • (0919) 320 5671
E. RODRIGUEZ SR., Ave., Q.C. - Tel. Nos.: 712-0024 • 711-5912 • SHAW BLVD., Mandaluyong City - Tel. No.: 725-5933
CUBAO, Q.C. - Tel. No.: 722-1081 • VALENZUELA CITY - Tel. No.: 292-0351 • NOVALICHES, Q.C. - Tel. No.: 936-0333
EDSA PANAY AVE., Quezon City - Tel. No.: 927-7155 • ANSONS MOTOR SQUARE, Makati City - Tel. No.: 843-8991
A. BONIFACIO AVE., Quezon City - Tel. No.: 364-360 • TIMOG Avenue, Quezon City - Tel. No.: 411-8980
CATALYTIC CONVERTER, MUFFLER TIP, SILENCER, SPORTS MUFFLERS, & ORIGINAL SILENCER MUFFLERS!

Jovy asks Gloria: Stop political dynasties

By Agnes Donato

SALONGA

FORMER senator Jovito Salonga yesterday urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to take action to end the proliferation of political dynasties in the country and in such manner post a meritorious achievement.

Describing the President's performance as "fair enough," Salonga gave Ms Macapagal a grade of 75 to 80 percent for her first month in office.

"In all candor, I cannot say that I am completely satisfied," Salonga said during a press conference at the Kilosbayan office in Mandaluyong City yesterday.

"There are outstanding things that have been done but there are still a lot that she can do as President," he said.

Salonga said he was alarmed over the way family members of certain politicians had been entering politics to take over their relative's position in government. He appealed to the President to "do something about this."

Ms Macapagal herself is a daughter of former President Diosdado Macapagal. Her son Juan Miguel is running for vice governor of Pampanga.

Salonga, a former chair of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, also asked the President to immediately put the agency in order.

He said the government could start by naming a chair. Subsequently, he recommended former Commission on Elections chairperson Haydee Yorac for the post.

"I believe that (Yorac) has the competence and credibility to lead the PCGG," he maintained.

Salonga also said he hoped that the Ombudsman and the prosecution panel would come up with a good case against deposed President Joseph Estrada, once the Supreme Court decision on the legitimacy of the Macapagal administration became final. Estrada is facing a host of plunder charges.

The Supreme Court ruled on Friday that Ms Macapagal was the lawful president of the country. Estrada had announced he would question the decision and file a motion for reconsideration.

"Once this is final, I hope the Ombudsman and the prosecutors, under the leadership of the President, would act decisively on the plunder cases against Estrada," Salonga added.

Private armies threaten polls–PNP

AUTHORITIES warned Tuesday that some 500 "private armies" controlled by politicians were a threat to peaceful general elections in May.

Police and agents of a presidential anti-crime task force will work to neutralize the warlord groups to "ensure they do not get in the way of having a clean and credible elections," said the head of the task force, Chief Superintendent Hermogenes Ebdane.

"Private armies are the main tools of the traditional 'guns, gold and goons' politicians, especially in hotly contested local posts," Ebdane said in a statement. "Remove these armies and dirty politics will vanish."

He said the task force had received reports local politicians have been organizing armed units "to engage in terror tactics" to win votes.

More than 17,000 elective posts will be up for grabs in the May 14 polls, including 13 seats in the 24-member Senate and all 250 posts in the House of Representatives. *AFP*

Diamonds...
We are BUYING loose DIAMONDS and BIG DIAMOND JEWELERIES.
Any size!
Any quality!
Any quantity!
(Also old cut and yellow stones!)
From PAWNSHOP, FINANCERS and PRIVATES.
We pay only CASH, DOLLARS or Pesos.
(We are serving all provinces in the Philippines.)
Tel: 636-2815 • Pager: 1277-89270
We will help you to redeem your item
Special arrangement for regular suppliers

IMPORTED WHEELCHAIR
• Fixed armrests
• Frame coated in dark blue color
• 8"/24" solid wheels
VISIT OUR WEBSITE: fareastmedical.net
COMFORT WHEELCHAIR
ROBINSONS GALLERIA Basement 635-5061
FAR EAST MEDICAL EQUIPMENT
SM MEGAMALL 5th Flr. Bldg. A 635-04-36
SM FAIRVIEW Basement 418 75 40
SM NORTH EDSA Car Port Plaza 453 3326
SM SOUTHMALL
GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN
CEBU 262 32 37

HAND PALLET TRUCK
BEST PRICE ₱11,800 1 TON
BEST PRICE ₱12,800 2.5 TONS
BEST PRICE ₱15,800 3 TONS
FACTORY HEAVY DUTY USE
BUY NOW WHILE STOCKS LAST!!!
HW ELECTRIC PHILIPPINES
Tels:(02)814-0934 • 814-0935 • 814-0936 • Fax:841-0646

NIBOR
CASH for DIAMONDS
NIBOR DIAMOND BUYING OFFICE of the PHILIPPINES
top caliber appraisals from INTERNATIONALLY EXPERIENCED GEMOLOGISTS
• INSTANT CASH for diamonds 3 carat & above.
• REIMBURSEMENT of TRAVEL EXPENSES of out of town sellers if sale is consummated.
• REDEMPTION ASSISTANCE of jewelries and diamonds from pawnshops & banks.
ALL TRANSACTIONS KEPT CONFIDENTIAL
Tel.: 726-4749 • Mobile: (0917) 536-2456
Monday-Saturday 9am-5pm
Office: Makati City • Office & Factory: CENTRAL BUILDING, 37 Anayat St., Cubao, Quezon City.

Across Tour Packages
"To have faith is to be sure of the things we hope for, to be certain of the things we cannot see. It was by their faith that people of ancient times won God's approval."
HEBREWS 11:1-2
EGYPT-ISRAEL TOUR 12 Days DEP. DATE: every Sunday
PORTUGAL-SPAIN-MOROCCO TOUR 17 Days DEP. DATE: every Monday
ITALY-PORTUGAL-FRANCE-IRELAND-DENMARK-SWEDEN-POLAND DEP. DATE: JUNE, 2001
ITALY & FRANCE TOUR 15 Days
TURKEY-GREECE TOUR 16 Days

TICKETS ONLY:	
HONG KONG (MIN 2 PAX)	$220.00
BANGKOK	$225.00
KUALA	$290.00
MACAU	$178.00
SINGAPORE	$283.00
SYDNEY	$460.00
LAX/SFO	$595.00
NYC/CHI	$695.00
VANCOUVER	$595.00
EUROPE	$795.00

TOUR PACKAGES		
HONG KONG	4DAYS/3NIGHTS	US$ 277.00
BANGKOK	4DAYS/3NIGHTS	US$ 257.00
SINGAPORE	3DAYS/2NIGHTS	US$ 330.00
AUSTRALIA	4DAYS/3NIGHTS	US$ 575.00
BRUNEI	3DAYS/2NIGHTS	US$ 408.00
GUAM	3DAYS/2NIGHTS	US$ 460.00

Diadem International Travel & Tours Incorporated
CALL: 525-7081, 536-4549, 536-4550, 522-7404
FAX: 523-7840 • E-MAIL: diadem@i-next.net
2002 Roxas Blvd. Cor. San Juan St., Pasay City, Metro Manila, Philippines

... travelling in appreciation of GOD's beautiful & bountiful creation
HOLYWEEK in HOLYLAND + Cairo & Amman US$ 1,890
07 - 17 Apr & 28 Apr - 08 May Highlights: Mt. Nebo, Tiberias, Galilee, Jerusalem, Dead Sea, Via Dolorosa, Jordan River, Bethlehem, Mt. Sinai, Pyramids, Sphinx & more
EUROPEAN PILGRIMAGE US$ 2,595
Dep dates 23 Apr,30 Apr, 07 May & 16 May Highlights: Paris, Lisieux, Lourdes, Zaragoza, Madrid, Avila, Fatima, Lisbon, Rome, Assisi & more. Holyland extension available.
PIRKKO & TROYTOURS, INC. LG17 Cityland Pasong Tamo, Estacion St., Makati City
Tel 752-1762 • 752-5165 Fax 752-5161
E-mail troytours@info.com.ph

SELL YOUR DIAMONDS TO THE SPECIALIST
Save On Interest
Our CASH will help redeem your pawned DIAMONDS plus give you EXTRA MONEY for your pocket!
JOAILLIER Fine Jewelry
RIGHT APPRAISAL
RIGHT PRICE
CASH
CASH PAID INSTANTLY
Buying Diamonds - 2 carats to 50 carats or bigger
Preferably Round, Emerald or Old Miner's (Antigo) Cut
For information and appointment, please call
between 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday to Saturday
Consultant: Ms. Eloisa Reyes-Barretto, Graduate Gemologist
Ground Floor Dusit Hotel Nikko, Ayala Center, Makati City
Tel. Nos. 817-8855 / 815-3191

REDISCOVER : Home-Based Opportunities
Your New Work Style for a New Lifestyle!
FOR BUSINESS EXPANSION
Elderly Persons are also welcome
G. COSMOS PHILS., Inc. is exerting efforts everyday, advocating our basic principle, " While pursuing the physical and spiritual happiness of all employees, contributing to the development of mankind and society and attaining co-existence and co-prosperity." In this disordered society, the bureaucrats and some managers of enterprises form this society for themselves, just seeking their own profit. With this selfish way of thinking prevailing, what will become of the future of the Philippines? G. COSMOS PHIL., Inc. was established to help people who have such problems as , "I cannot find a place to work", "I'd like to work but I can't because I have some matters to look after", "I'd like to work after retirement." Our company was established for International contribution. We look forward to receiving your application with heartfelt expectation.

INCOME / EARNINGS :	Average monthly earnings of Php 30,000 to Php 50,000. There will be two pay dates, 15 days apart.
REMITTANCE / WITHDRAWAL :	On or around the 5th and 20th of each month.
WHO CAN JOIN :	Male/ Female, 20 - 90 years old, can participate. (However, wealthy persons are requested to refrain from joining)
WHAT TO DO :	While staying at home, working twice a month for about 30 minutes on each occasion, you only have to select a product from the catalog which will be sent to you. The selected product will be advertised in mail-order shopping programs on T.V. or in newspapers, magazines and internet.

ANYONE CAN DO THIS VERY EASY HOME-BASED JOB
2 PAYMENT DATES PER MONTH
PARTICIPATION THROUGH CREDIT IS POSSIBLE
* Limited slots available so join now!
You can reach us through telephone, mail or fax!
Please give us your Name, Address, Age, Telephone Number and your Telemarketer in-charge.
CODE: 03 03 4
We will be sending you free brochure, postage will not be charged to you.
G. COSMOS Phils., Inc.
TEL. NOS.: 850-7958; 850-7973
FAX: 850-7992 TO 94

Facial Care Centre
Skin Whitening Breakthrough
Shiroi Active Whitening Treatment.
Shiroi Active Whitening Treatment. Originated in Japan, the treatment promotes skin clarity for hyper-pigmentation problems and stabilizes skin tone over dark, blotchy areas. So whether you have sun-darkened or naturally born dark skin, Shiroi Active Whitening Treatment will make your skin fairer, whiter after only a few treatments.
Experience skin whitening that's beyond anything you've ever imagined.
Call Facial Care Centre NOW!
FREE TWO (2) INTENSIVE CLARIFYING TREATMENTS upon enrollment until March 11, 2001 only!
Facial care centre
Where Beautiful Skin Happens
MAKATI 817-3323 812-6080/81 Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St.
NEW LOCATION ORTIGAS 687-2196 687-2197 631-3007 • 631-3045 Robinsons Equitable Tower, ADB Ave.
QUEZON CITY 372-6633 372-6634 410-3709 • 410-3710 Cedar Executive Bldg. Timog Avenue
SHAW 534-7701/02 717-0076 Sunshine Square Plaza
ALABANG 842-1144 809-9583 / 850-4577 Citibank-Frabelle Bldg. Alabang-Zapote Rd.
BINONDO 242-2148 242-2185 Federal Tower Bldg. Dasmariñas St.
CEBU 233-7631 233-7633/35 Keppel Centre, Cebu City
ALL CENTERS ARE NOW OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK. Per DTI-NCR Permit #0494, Series of 2001
MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SAT. (8 AM - 5 PM) / SUN. (10 AM - 3 PM)

Japanese workers' security assured

By Armand Nocum

TOP officials of the Macapagal government yesterday assured that security measures are being undertaken to prevent another ambush of Japanese nationals working on an overseas development assistance (ODA) project in Cebu.

In a news briefing, Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita and Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong said security men have been fielded in the project site.

Last month, six Japanese project engineers and their two Filipino drivers were ambushed by three unidentified men on the outskirts of Cebu City.

ATTENTION:
ELECTORAL CANDIDATES

RUN A SURE WIN CAMPAIGN!

we provide the ff.services:
- advance party
- full entertainment
- lights & sound / P.A. system
- stage setup, camera rental
- audio visual presentation
- confetti, fireworks & other effects
- singers, dancers, comedians, hosts
- poster, sticker design, jingle composition

CALL US NOW BEFORE YOUR OPPONENT DOES!
HEADQUARTERS 6347776 / 6384244 fax 6347773
1403A Philippine Stock Exchange Center East Tower Pasig City

EARN MILLIONS IN TODAY'S MOST PROMISING BUSINESS !!!
DIRECT BUYER
A WATER REFILLING STATION BUSINESS
Avail NOW & receive the
• Source Tank
• Product Tank
• 1 Hot & Cold Dispenser
• 1 Heat Gun
• 10 Pcs. 5 Gal. Ctnr.
ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!
ALL U.S. Made
CHOOSE FROM ANY OF OUR 14 OR 16 STAGE PACKAGES WITH CAPACITY'S 1000, 1800 OR 3000 GPD
WE ARE ALSO OPEN FOR FRANCHISE:
UNIVERSAL AQUA
• NO Franchising FEE
• NO Royalty
For further info, kindly call us at:
inter-EX WATER SYSTEMS
1013-E EDSA, Proj 7, Quezon City, Philippines
Tel. No.: 372-2646/372-2655
Telefax No.: 372-2642
or E-Mail us at: gideon@pacific.net.ph

6oracay

FLY TO YOUR FAVORITE SUMMER DESTINATION SIX TIMES DAILY.

Starting March 16, Asian Spirit will be offering six flights daily to your favorite summer destination. This means you won't have to miss out on the fun in the sun this summer. Just fly Asian Spirit. For reservations, call (632) 851-8888 or visit our website at www.asianspirit.com.

BAGUIO (074) 304-2813 • BORACAY (036) 288-3465 • BUSUANGA CAGAYAN DE ORO (088) 856-5435 • CALBAYOG (055) 209-1189 CATARMAN (055) 354-1378 • CEBU (032) 341-0225 • MANILA (02) 851-8888 MARINDUQUE (042) 332-1121 • MASBATE (056) 333-3937 • NAGA (054) 472-2639 SAN FERNANDO (072) 888-0088 • SAN JOSE (043) 491-4151 • SURIGAO (086) 826-2532 • TAGBILARAN (038) 411-5701 VIRAC (052) 811-1056

Asian Spirit
THE PEOPLE'S AIRLINE

SAN PABLO BLASTS

Baldomero Baldivia is being attended to by his wife at a hospital in San Pablo City after he was wounded by one of two fragmentation grenades exploded by fleeing armed robbers. A security guard was killed and more than 30 others were wounded in yesterday's robbery. Other photos show the pawnshop that was being robbed and the hole on the ground where one grenade exploded. *(Earlier story on Page 14)*

Gloria spares 2 doomed men

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday she had spared the lives of two convicts who were sentenced to die by lethal injection.

The sentences of Edgar Maligaya and Rodrigo Calma were commuted to life imprisonment, Ms Macapagal told a news conference.

She did not give details about their cases.

There are 1,690 convicts on death row in the Philippines—more than half for aggravated rape. The rest were condemned for kidnappings, murder, and drug trafficking.

Asked whether she would take steps to abolish capital punishment, Arroyo said: "That's really a matter for Congress to determine." *AFP*

Power producers willing to have contracts reviewed

MAJORITY of the independent power producers, which supply more than half of the country's power requirements, are willing to have "a constructive review" of their contracts with the National Power Corp.

David Tan, president of the Philippine Independent Power Producers Association (PIPPA), made this announcement yesterday as the association clarified its position on issues involving power purchase agreements.

The agreements were entered into by independent power producers with the government at the height of the power crisis that hit the country in the early '90s. The issue was raised in relation to the review of the controversial Omnibus Power Act by the bicameral conference committee of the House of Representatives and the Senate and the executive department.

In a statement, Tan said "PIPPA will cooperate in seeking ways to alleviate the cash flow problems of the Napocor. This must be done on a company-to-company and contract-to-contract basis and in ways that would not impair the financial viability of existing power plants."

Tan said independent power producers believe that it would be to the larger and better interest of the power sector to assist in all feasible ways in restructuring and strengthening Napocor.

To do this, Tan explained, the PIPPA members will similarly seek the equal cooperation of their lenders which had provided the 60 to 70 percent of the financing in these projects.

He said the confidence of the financiers of independent power plants must be maintained because they are the same lenders who will play major roles in financing new power plants that the country will soon need to avert another crippling power crisis.

"Most of our member IPPs are not informed by cross-ownership with Napocor. Our contracts were arms-length and transparent. In fact, many of the IPP projects were subjected to open competitive bidding," Tan explained.

Tan pointed out that most of the power projects and contracts were hurriedly put together to solve the power crisis of 1992-96 which crippled the Philippine economy.

He said most of these projects were financed at above market rates and costs. Those are parts of the costs and consequences of fast tracking, Tan explained.

However, Tan said after years of operating these power plants, the independent power producers are confident that there would be room for improvement in each of the contracts.

Clip this ad for P 1,000 discount from SRP to participating outlets
For Washers and Dryers, nothing outranks an...
Admiral
Admiral extra large capacity Washers and Dryers (10.1kg.) 3.3 cu.ft, built in the U.S.A., accepts big laundry loads required by big families. Washed 15 pairs of jeans in just one load, faster and economical and drying extra large loads, rather than many small loads, you can cut down your total washing and drying time, saves energy, time and money. Admiral products are guaranteed in countries with distributors and after sales service is always assured.

Suggested Retail Price: P 28,500 - 220 V P 27,500 - 110 V
AAV-4200 AWWW Fully automatic Heavy Duty Washer

Suggested Retail Price: P 26,500 220 V. 60 Hz.
AAV 1200 AKW Fully automatic Heavy Duty Washer

Suggested Retail Price: P 24,500 220 V. 60 Hz.
AYE 1200 AWW Fully automatic Heavy Duty Dryer

Features for model AAV 1200 AKW & AAV 4200 AWWW
AAV 1200 AKW available only in 220 V. 60 Hz. Cycle Power
* Extra large 10.1 kg. (3.3cu.ft.) Capacity load. washes up to 15 jeans per load.
* High tech contemporary styling
* Big flex fin agitator with high flow poly-pump for effective cleaner wash.
* Self cleaning drain system, pulls away dirty water.
* Dual drive transmission system for more power.
* Unbalanced clothes compensator for non-manual clothes balancing.
* Powder coated surface for better paint adhesion. 5 times thicker than paint.
* Self adjusting rear & front legs for floor level balance & prevent vibration movements
* Easy loading and unloading self locking lid.
* Built in bleach dispenser.
Plus exclusive features for AAV-4200 AWWW.
* Available in 220 V. & 110 V., 60 Hz. Cycle Power
* Built-in Multi temperature controller.
* Auto Bleach/Fabric softener dispenser.

Features:
* 10.1 kg. (7 cu.ft.) clothes dryer
* Auto dry control selector
* 2 temperature selections
* Handles the largest of family loads with an 8" blower fan
* Nylon lint filter located in front for easy handling
* Controls are conveniently positioned in front for easy to read and easy to use operation
* End cycle signal for alerting clothes dryer completion
* Free Installation.
* Full year warranty.
* Parts available in stock.

Proudly made in the USA
Wanted: Retailer for area outside Metro Manila
Office Tel #: 910-5113 / 910-6074 Fax#: 671-5955
Available at Ancons Dept. Store-843-4057
SM Appliance Center-743-9751
Sales Direct Ltd.-910-5966
For value, Nothing outranks an...
Admiral

Leftists not impressed by release of 17

By **Andrea T. Echavez** and **Christian V. Esguerra**

BAYAN Muna, the militant party-list group, yesterday expressed disappointment with the "token" release of 17 political detainees, saying it fell short of what President Macapagal-Arroyo had promised.

Satur Ocampo, Bayan Muna president and former spokesperson of the communist National Democratic Front, pressed for the immediate freeing of all 77 political prisoners whose release had been recommended by the Department of Justice.

Ocampo, himself a former political detainee, said the release of the 17 fell short of the "desired number" initially agreed upon by the Macapagal administration and human rights groups supporting the prisoners' cause.

"The release of political prisoners is one way of building a conducive atmosphere for the resumption of peace talks. In this case, the number of political prisoners released is not that impressive to earn merits for the administration," he said.

The justice department had approved the release of 17 political prisoners on Monday, eight of whom were released on the same day, while the rest were freed yesterday.

Marie Hilao-Enriquez, secretary general of the human rights' group Karapatan, said freeing all political detainees was not such an impossible feat.

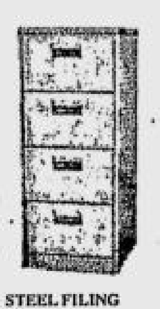
"If it was done in the Aquino administration, it can also be done now under the (Macapagal) administration if it has the same political will," she said.

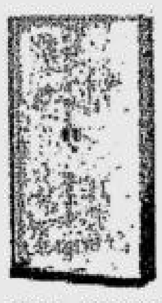
Ocampo said the discredited Joseph Estrada regime approved the release of 77 political prisoners days before his ouster from office. The supposed release, however, was overtaken by the Edsa II revolt that forced Estrada out of Malacañang.

Order on-line!
www.officeclub.com.ph

Free delivery within Metro Manila
No minimum order.
COD order accepted.

ALSO AVAILABLE:
2 DRAWERS
P 3,695.00
3 DRAWERS
P 3,995.00





IMPORTED
Solid Construction
w/ LOCK & KEY

STEEL FILING
4 Drawers
46.5Wx62Dx132H
P 4,550.00

STEEL STORAGE CABINET (w/ 3 shelfs)
91.5Wx45.5Dx183H
P 4,995.00

OFFICE CLUB.com
The New Way to E-Commerce
Call Center : 244 - 7211
Fax No. : 243 - 1875
E - Mail : sales@officeclub.com.ph

Showroom :
344 Nueva St., Binondo, Manila
A P20.00 handling fee will be charge for orders worth P100.00 & below

LETTER FROM UTRETCH

Joma to Gloria: Let's talk

EXILED communist leader Jose Ma. Sison has expressed his group's willingness to take up the government's offer to reopen peace talks, President Macapagal-Arroyo said yesterday.

The President told a news conference that the message was contained in a "very nice letter" from Sison, founding chair of the Communist Party of the Philippines, who lives in exile in Utretch, Netherlands.

She quoted Sison as saying that he welcomed "her desire to resume the peace negotiations with the National Democratic Front and to reconstitute the (government) negotiating panel."

Sison also said he hoped peace panels of both sides could "lay the ground for the resumption of the peace negotiations" Ms Macapagal said.

Ms Macapagal expressed confidence the letter would be a step forward.

Jose de Venecia, chair of the ruling Lakas-NUCD who is negotiating with communist leaders, said the talks could begin later this month.

"My personal belief is it (the talks) will resume in March... I asked if we could resume in March and they all agreed," he told Reuters.

He also said that two government envoys, Agrarian Secretary Hernani Braganza and former Justice Secretary Silvestre Bello, were currently in the Netherlands to meet Sison and other rebel leaders.

They will discuss the release of an army major and a policeman held captive by the New People's Army, the CPP's armed wing, and the freeing of rebels from government jails.

De Venecia said that peace on two fronts will achieve a dramatic, calming effect on the nation, create jobs and bring back investments.

Earlier this week, the government freed 10 captured communist and Muslim separatist rebels, the first among scores of detained alleged rebels that they plan to release in a goodwill gesture to convince both the Muslims and the communists to return to peace talks.

The communist NDF pulled out of talks in 1999 in protest over the Senate ratification of Visiting Forces Agreement with the United States.

Soon after taking power, Ms Macapagal began taking steps to resume peace talks, naming new negotiating panels for both the communists and the Muslim rebels.

She also declared a unilateral truce with the separatist Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

Meanwhile, a communist rebel faction said yesterday it would continue fighting for "the oppressed and exploited" through the term of Ms Macapagal.

The group, called the Revolutionary Proletarian Army-Alex Boncayao Brigade, consists of two groups that broke off from the CPP in the early 1990s because of differences over tactics in waging an armed Marxist insurrection. The two groups formed an alliance in 1997.

"The RPA-ABB will continue to be steadfast in performing its duties as the army of the proletariat and defense forces of the oppressed and exploited," the group said in a statement marking the fourth founding anniversary of the alliance.

The group, which says it has around 1,000 guerrillas based mainly in Negros island, said its "police actions" have eased the sufferings of many impoverished Filipinos and it would continue such activities in Ms Macapagal's time. It did not specify any particular targets.

The group's "police actions" in the past have come in the form of grenade attacks on oil companies to protest oil price increases or handcuffing policemen to posts after accusing them of corruption.

The ABB, led by rebel commander Nilo de la Cruz, has been blamed for the assassinations of several politicians, policemen and military officials starting in the 1980s.

The arrests of many of its members, including De la Cruz, and their breaking off from the CPP dealt a serious blow to the group. *AFP, AP and Reuters*

An Invitation To A Journey On The

STEPS OF ST. PAUL

with EPHESUS, CORINTH, ATHENS, ANTAKYA, TARSUS, ROME, etc.

19 Days

DEPARTURE DATE: APRIL 16, 2001

FR. STEVE TYNAN, M.G.L.
Pilgrimage Chaplain

EXECUTIVE RESOURCES, INC.
INTERNATIONAL PILGRIMAGE COORDINATORS

Lower Lobby, Century Park Hotel, P. Ocampo Sr., Malate, Manila
Call Jojang, Tess, Nora or Chichi • Tel. Nos. 523-8581, 521-4156
Fax: 526-0126 • E-mail: pilgrimage@execres.com.ph
DOT-228-2000
IATA PTAA

Tess scoffs at PPC sweep; Rasul joins Puwersa slate

By **Christine Avendaño**

REELECTIONIST Senators Teresa Aquino-Oreta of the opposition Puwersa ng Masa and Renato Cayetano yesterday engaged in a tit-for-tat joust over what party had the better chance of making a sweep as the campaign lurched toward a heated finish.

Amid the claims and counter-claims, only one hard news emerged yesterday—the announcement that former senator Santanina Rasul, who was edged out of the PPC Senate ticket, is now the 13th candidate of the opposition party.

A statement sent to the INQUIRER said Rasul joined the Laban ng Demokratikong Pilipino-PnM yesterday after a "heart-to-heart talk" with the opposition senatorial candidates and a collective pledge to push hard for a "Mindanao agenda."

Rasul will join the Visayan sorties of the opposition candidates, which starts in Eastern Visayas today, according to party spokesperson Demaree Raval.

In her contention, Oreta said yesterday the administration PPC "must be dreaming" if it believed its 13 senatorial candidates would sweep the May 14 elections.

Advice for Erap

Oreta also said that she preferred that ousted President Estrada skipped altogether the campaign sorties of PnM and instead attended to the numerous plunder cases filed against him.

She said Estrada might be opening himself to harm by groups who might not want him to go around the countryside and enlist sympathy for himself.

She also said she believed that Estrada was not about to flee the country, saying that leaving via the backdoor was simply not in the character of the former president.

"Personally, I doubt it very, very much. He's not the adventurous type," Oreta told reporters.

Oreta declared the electorate had always allowed opposition candidates to grab seats in the Senate.

For instance, she said, even when the "Cory magic" was most mesmerizing after the Edsa revolution in 1986, 22 administration candidates won in the Senate race, but two opposition candidates also managed to squeak through.

"So (the country) never had any elections that had a zero vote for any camp," Oreta said.

She also said she did not believe that the Supreme Court's unanimous decision upholding the legitimacy of President Macapagal-Arroyo's administration was a blow to the chances of the opposition candidates of the PnM.

"I think the Filipino people will now look at the candidates in their capacity, in how they will serve the country," Oreta said.

High awareness of the candidates would also play a role, she said, adding this was why she believed many PnM candidates like Dr. Luisa Ejercito Estrada and reelectionist senators would make it on May 14.

Cayetano was quick to dispute Oreta. "That is a bravado statement by Sen. Oreta that the SC ruling will not adversely affect the Erap candidates," he said.

One Mercedes Plaza (Pasig)
cor. Mercedes & Market Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City

With Rustan's Express Lane, Jollibee, BPI Express Banking, Mr.Quickie among others as anchor stores is now accepting lease application for FASTFOOD OPERATORS, CELLPHONE STORES, INTERNET Café, AMUSEMENT, SERVICES ETC.

For interested to lease
Please send your letter of intent to:
Consult us-Tel.9130626 Tfax: 9113563
Nancy/Kaloi-Tel. 6402145 Tfax:6402975

It's LP for LP –Atienza

By **Martin P. Marfil**

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY—City officials of Manila, led by Mayor Joselito Atienza, are poised to junk the senatorial candidates of the administration's People Power Coalition.

This was made apparent yesterday in an interview with Atienza who said that he was committed to support only two PPC candidates, Quezon Rep. Wigberto Tañada and lawyer Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan.

"We are official candidates of the Liberal Party and we are committed to support the LP candidates," Atienza, an LP stalwart, said in an interview at the Puerto Princesa airport.

Asked if it meant he would be junking the rest of the PPC ticket, Atienza said: "I wouldn't look at it that way."

"We are concentrating on the LP candidates," he said.

Atienza was one of those who stood by deposed President Joseph Estrada when the impeachment complaint was filed at the House of Representatives, even as some LP congressmen supported it.

The city of Manila has about 900,000 registered voters, the second biggest in Metro Manila.

The biggest number of voters in Metro Manila are concentrated in Quezon City, which has 1.1 million.

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE
BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE
Quezon City

February 28, 2001

REVENUE REGULATIONS NO. 1-2001

SUBJECT : **Extending Further the Deadline for the Accreditation of Tax Agents, Amending for this Purpose Revenue Regulations No. 15-99, as Amended by Revenue Regulations Nos. 3-2000 and 12-2000.**

TO : **All Internal Revenue Officers and Others Concerned.**

Pursuant to Section 244 of the Tax Code of 1997, in relation to Section 6(G) of the same Code, these Regulations are hereby promulgated to extend further the deadline for the accreditation of tax agents previously set under Revenue Regulations No. 15-99, as amended by Revenue Regulations Nos. 3-2000 and 12-2000.

Section 1. Amendment. Section 13 of Revenue Regulations No. 15-99, as amended by Revenue Regulations Nos. 3-2000 and 12-2000, is hereby further amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 13. Transitory Provision. - The requirements imposed by these Regulations shall be mandatory after **JUNE 30, 2001.** After the said period, all returns, statements, reports, protests, requests for ruling, official correspondence and other papers filed on behalf of a taxpayer shall bear the following information below the signature of the accredited tax representative.

A. x x x x x x x x x x
B. x x x x x x x x x x"

SEC. 2. Effectivity. These Regulations shall take effect immediately.

ALBERTO G. ROMULO
Secretary of Finance

Recommending approval:

RENE G. BAÑEZ
Commissioner of Internal Revenue

March 7, 2001 – Inquirer

WIN THE ELECTION

COMELEC APPROVED SIZES
As low as P6.00

ORDER NOW, GET AHEAD!
Streamers

☑ up to six (6) colors print
☑ 50,000 pcs. a day output
☑ Durable and all-weather

N.R. TRADING & INDUSTRIES, INC.

Q.C. Office: (02) 911-5945 • (02) 911-5974 • (02) 911-5992
Meycauayan Plant: (044) 840-7534
Cell: (0917) 817-7669 • (0917) 526-9030
(0917) 423-6146 • (0919) 574-1699

DLI GENERICS

PARACETAMOL
PARACETAMOL

QUALITY NA MURA PA SA BOTICA

Suggested Retail Price

	Price		Price
Ambroxol Capsule 75 mg	6.50	Diclofenac Sod. Film Coated Tablet 50 mg	4.70
Amoxicillin Capsule 250 mg	3.75	Glibenclamide Tablet 5 mg	2.00
Amoxicillin Capsule 500 mg	6.00	INH - Syrup 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00
Amoxicillin Suspension 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00	Isoniazid Tablet 300 mg	1.50
Ampicillin Capsule 500 mg	7.25	Loperamide HCl Capsule 2 mg	2.75
Ampicillin Powder for Injection 500 mg, vial	35.00	Mefenamic Acid Capsule 250 mg	2.50
Bromhexine HCl Syrup 4 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	45.00	Mefenamic Acid Tablet 500 mg	3.00
Bromhexine HCl Tablet 8 mg	1.75	Multi-Vitamin Syrup 60 mL	56.00
Carbocisteine (SCMC) Capsule 500 mg	4.50	Multi-Vitamin Tablet	3.00
Carbocisteine Syrup (SCMC) 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	49.00	Paracetamol Syrup 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	36.50
Cephalexin Capsule 500 mg	11.00	Paracetamol Tablet 500 mg	0.90
Chloramphenicol Suspension 125 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	63.00	Rifampicin Suspension 100 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	75.00
Combi Pack - INH-Rifam-PZA 300/450/500 mg	27.00/day	Rifampicin Capsule 450 mg	15.00
Combi Pack - INH-Rifam 300/450 mg	18.00/day	Salbutamol Syrup 2 mg/5 mL, 60 mL	42.00
Co-trimoxazole Suspension (TM-40 mg, SMZ-200 mg), 60 mL	56.00	Salbutamol Tablet 2 mg	1.75
Co-trimoxazole Tablet (TM-80 mg, SMZ-400 mg)	4.00	Vitamins B1 + B6 + B12 Tablet	3.50

Member: Generic Association of the Phil., Available nationwide (not yet available in Mercury Drug)
Address: 3rd Floor Lawyers Coop. Bldg., 459 Quezon Ave., Quezon City, Metro Manila
Tel Nos.: 711-3933, 741-7763, 712-4990, 741-9203, 743-1620, 743-1626 FAX: 712-4921, 743-1633.
E-Mail: pacific@DLI-Generics.com Complete FACTORY PRICES available at WEBSITE: www.DLI-Generics.com
DEALERS/DISTRIBUTORS ARE WELCOME

Danding suffers setback over control of UCPB

(From page A1)

ance of the questioned order dated Feb. 28, 2001 of the Sandiganbayan," the Supreme Court ruling said.

The high court gave the government and Cojuangco's group until March 12 to submit their written comments. Oral arguments on the case were scheduled on March 14.

The TRO issued by the Supreme Court prompted the bank to postpone its annual stockholders meeting scheduled yesterday.

Jeronimo Kilayco, the incumbent UCPB chair, told reporters the bank's management would seek a clarification from the Supreme Court regarding the scope of its "status quo" order.

"It didn't say who can vote the shares—the old board or the new one," Kilayco said.

During the Estrada administration, the PCGG nominated Kilayco and the 13 other allies of Cojuangco to the UCPB board, giving the business tycoon control of the bank as well as San Miguel.

The present directors include Juan Carlos, Redentor Alegre, Albert Gohu, Andres Narvasa Jr., Romeo Odi, Manuel Pamaran, Rosario Razon, Danilo Reyes, Mila Reforma, Agustin Salgado and Rebecca Ynares.

Lorenzo Tan, a friend of Estrada, was named bank president while Virgilio Jacinto was appointed corporate secretary. Aquilino Pimetel III, the son of Senate President Aquilino Pimentel, resigned as director last November at the height of the "Juetengate" scandal.

Deogracias Vistan, former president of Solid Banking Corp. and vice chair of the Metrobank Group, was supposed to have replaced Kilayco as UCPB chair in yesterday's stockholders meeting.

The other new directors nominated by the PCGG, at the behest of the Macapagal administration, were Conrado Limcaoco, Alex Magno, Joey Rufino, Manuel Valdehuesa, Helen Osias, Dunga Lim, Francisco Lejano, Rolando Golez, Juan Carlos, Teresita Baltazar and Romeo Arceo Jr.

Francisco del Rosario, former chair of the Development Bank of the Philippines, was named the new UCPB president.

Sequestered shares

Cojuangco was an ally of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos and fled with him when Marcos went into exile after being toppled during Edsa People Power I in 1986.

The government then sequestered 95 percent of the shares in UCPB and 47 percent of San Miguel, which it alleged were bought by the Cojuangco group using funds collected through levies on coconut farmers.

Cojuangco claims he owns a 20-percent stake in San Miguel outright and that another 27-percent stake is held by the Coconut Industry Investment Fund. He also claims a 17.8-percent stake in UCPB.

He resumed the chairmanship of San Miguel in 1998 shortly after Estrada came to power and the Supreme Court granted him voting rights over the disputed 20-percent stake.

The Supreme Court ruled—first in 1997 and again in 1999—that the government must present evidence the shares were ill-gotten in order for it to take control of them.

Ownership of the 20-percent stake, however, is still being contested.

The government earlier said the votes accruing to the other 27-percent sequestered stake would go against Cojuangco and that it would also contest Cojuangco's claim to the other 20 percent.

Cojuangco said he and his allies in San Miguel hold a total of about 65-percent interest, enough to elect the majority of the company's board of directors.

San Miguel closed 50 centavos lower at P48, while its B shares, which are open to foreigners, were unchanged at P56.

"I don't think it is fair for government . . . to put in a replacement that is not a stockholder," Cojuangco said.

"If the majority of the stockholders will tell me in a stockholders meeting that they want me replaced, there is no problem."

After the stockholders meeting was postponed, the UCPB management invited Cojuangco to speak at an "informal meeting" of stockholders.

Cojuangco told the bank's stockholders, mostly coconut farmers wearing white T-shirts with the words "I am a Cocobank stockholder" on the back, that he considered the Supreme Court ruling a minor stumbling block.

"I strongly believe that in the next few months, we will finally triumph and we will be able to exercise our duly constituted right as owners of this bank and elect the directors we so all desire," he said.

"Let us start exercising our rights as stockholders of this bank. Show them that all you stockholders are not my dummies but you are the real and true owners of this institution," Cojuangco said amid cheers from the crowd. *With reports from Clarissa S. Batino and Reuters*

Wait until March 23, SC tells Ani

(From page A1)

its ruling on Friday that stripped Estrada of immunity has not yet become final.

"We can't take any action . . . until the lapse of the period on March 23," Desierto said.

In his petition to lift the TRO, Desierto said the high court's order was already deemed lifted after the tribunal dismissed Estrada's petition questioning the legitimacy of the Macapagal presidency.

Desierto said the tribunal's 13-0 ruling in favor of President Macapagal-Arroyo also meant that Estrada "does not enjoy any form of immunity."

Also yesterday, Justice Secretary Hernando Perez filed a new plunder complaint against Estrada for allegedly pocketing P189.7 million as commission in the purchase of P1.8-billion worth of Belle Corp. stocks in 1999.

The purchase was made by the Social Security System (SSS) and the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) at the behest of Estrada, according to Perez.

Perez filed the plunder case with the Office of the Ombudsman, bringing the number of Estrada's plunder charges to nine.

Of the nine plunder cases, six are now pending resolution with the Ombudsman, while the other two are still under fact-finding investigation.

Perez claimed that the new case was one of the strongest cases filed against Estrada since it directly showed that the former President allegedly used his immense power to enrich himself.

"The subject affidavits and supporting documentary evidence would establish that former President Estrada took advantage of his official position and influence to unjustly enrich himself at the expense . . . of the Filipino people," he said.

He said the P189.7-million commission was given to Estrada through his friend, businessman Jaime Dichaves, who got it from Belle Corp. vice chair Willy Ng Ocier.

Documents submitted to the Ombudsman showed that a P189.7-million check was deposited in Estrada's controversial P3 2-billion "Jose Velarde" account with the Equitable PCI Bank.

At the filing of the case at 3:30 p.m., Perez presented Carlos Arellano, former SSS chair and chief executive officer; Federico Pascual, former GSIS president/CEO; and Ocier.

Accompanied by their lawyers, Arellano, Pascual and Ocier signed their affidavits before Desierto.

Perez said the justice department had already placed the three under the government's Witness Protection Program.

Arellano had been a close friend of Estrada since he was 11 years old. Aside from being neighbors in San Juan, Arellano and Estrada were schoolmates at the Ateneo de Manila. Estrada was also very close to Arellano's cousin, the late Dodo Arellano.

OUTBURST from deposed President Estrada's loyalists, who hold a rally in front of the Supreme Court to protest its ruling that affirmed the legitimacy of the Macapagal presidency. AP

Ocier claims to be an associate of Estrada.

Because of the gravity of the charges, Desierto has ordered an immediate formal investigation of the case.

"In view of the fact that the DOJ prosecutors are also deputized prosecutors of the Ombudsman, there's no more need for a fact-finding inquiry. The Ombudsman will now proceed with the preliminary investigation," he said.

Estrada has 10 days to submit his counter-affidavit, according to Desierto.

Lawyer Ellen Veza, lead counsel of Arellano, Pascual and Ocier, told reporters that the SSS bought 329.8 million Belle Corp. shares worth P744,612,450 (equal to one board seat), while the GSIS bought 351.8 million Bell Corp. shares worth P1,102,965,607 (equal to almost one board seat).

Veza said the SSS made a one-time purchase on Oct. 29, 1999, while the GSIS bought the shares through a series of transactions from Oct. 13 to 21, 1999.

"There are no actual losses but there are paper losses," she said, referring to the fact that the stocks were acquired at a high price although the market value was low.

Perez said there was no actual losses since the shares of stocks had not been sold. "But once the stocks are sold that's where the injury to the government enters the picture," he added.

Perez also clarified that there was nothing wrong with the acquisition of the Belle Corp. shares since it was a publicly listed company.

"What is illegal is the use of trust funds (of GSIS and SSS) to gain commission," he said.

NBI places Erap . . .

(From page A1)

stripping Estrada of immunity from suit on Friday, the disgraced President reportedly planned to leave the country but was foiled.

Over the weekend, he again planned to leave either for Hong Kong from Cagayan de Oro or for Palau from Puerto Princesa, according to a military official. These were called off because of tight security at the airports.

The Air Transport Office (ATO) is now closely monitoring the departures of chartered planes.

ATO acting chief Anacleto Venturina said that from now on the identities of the passengers would have to be verified against the passenger manifest before any plane could be allowed to take off.

Before dawn yesterday, airport police and immigration personnel swooped down on the hangar of Subic International Air at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport following reports that it was flying Estrada to Vietnam.

But the agents, who guarded the hangar from 4 a.m. until the plane took off for Vietnam at 7:30 a.m., found out that none of its passengers included Estrada. Curiously, the plane's passengers included its president Jose "Pepito" Alvarez, a friend of Estrada.

"The authorities thought that Estrada was leaving on that plane. That's why they sent their men to check this out. Every flight is now under a tight watch," an airport official said.

The military earlier said that Estrada had tried to leave the country using a Lear jet owned by businessman "Danding" Cojuangco Jr.

Cojuangco denied reports that Estrada would use his jet in leaving the country.

"There is no truth to these reports. It is unfortunate that these false allegations, being made by some persons hiding behind the cloak of anonymity, have been given credence by some sectors in the media," he said in a statement. Cojuangco ran for President in 1992. Estrada was his running mate.

Despite Cojuangco's assurance, the ATO is keeping a tight watch on the aircraft owned by Cojuangco in Bacolod City. The ATO is also monitoring the aircraft of Cebu businessman Douglas Ludo.

Ricardito Eguna, ATO Cebu manager, said they were helping the ATO in Western Visayas to monitor Cojuangco's "Challenger" jet.

He said the "Challenger" was usually parked at Cojuangco's hangar in the Bacolod City Airport.

"Danding used the aircraft to fly directly from Bacolod to Australia where he owns a ranch," he added.

Aside from the aircraft's movement, Eguna said they were also closely monitoring the refueling of these planes.

In the Visayas, airports in Bacolod, Cebu and Iloilo are the only facilities capable of refueling planes.

The Philippine Airlines has a refueling facility in Tacloban City. A private plane must get a clearance form ATO Manila to refuel in Tacloban City.

Ludo's aircraft

Eguna disclosed that Estrada had used the two jets of Ludo when he was still President during his visits to Cebu.

These aircraft are capable of trips to neighboring Asian countries.

Ludo reportedly owns a Falcon–10, which is parked at Ludo's Hangar inside the Mactan Cebu International Airport.

But a Lear Jet 45 is also parked inside Ludo's hangar. The aircraft was allegedly owned by a certain Gonzales from Subic.

Ludo, who was among the campaign supporters of Estrada, is one of the owners of Ludo and Luym Corp., the biggest coconut processing plant in Asia. Estrada had appointed Ludo on the board of the National Power Corp.

The INQUIRER called up Ludo's Hangar at MCIA. The woman who answered the phone said Ludo only owns Falcon-10, which is now in Manila.

She, however, refused to say what the aircraft was doing in Manila. But she admitted that Estrada had used the Falcon-10 when he was still the Vice President.

Wycoco yesterday issued a warning to airline officials that they would face "severe sanctions" should they allow their airline companies to transport Estrada out of the country.

Subic Air's flight for Vietnam was its only flight yesterday.

Estrada, who returned to Manila Sunday night after a three-day campaign sortie in Mindanao, was scheduled to fly to Samar yesterday. But this apparently did not push through.

"We sent men to personally check if he (Estrada) was on the Subic Air plane. But this turned out to be negative," Venturina said.

He said that ATO was monitoring each flight of Subic Air, which had been chartered by Estrada for his campaign sorties in Zamboanga del Norte and Cagayan de Oro last week.

Alvarez et al.

Subic Air took off from the Naia with two crewmembers—Captains Arthur Santos and Johnny Gulla—and five passengers. Apart from Alvarez, the other passengers were Bienvenido Santos, Juvy Fajardo, Felix Mabilog Jr. and Arsenio Yap.

The airline, which had obtained an exit/entry permits from the ATO, is expected to fly back to Manila today.

The ATO earlier warned Subic Air for not promptly informing it about flight operations briefing station (FOBS) that Estrada was on board its flight for Zamboanga last week.

It was established that the pilot of Subic Air only informed FOBS that Estrada was on board after the plane had taken off. Estrada was not included in the manifest earlier submitted by the airline.

"If it commits the same thing again, the plane and the pilot will be grounded," Venturina of ATO said.

He hinted that it would be difficult for Estrada to leave on a plane not cleared by the ATO. "It will be difficult for them to do that because they will have to secure an exit clearance and file a flight plan," he said.

Any plane, which managed to fly out of the country without clearance from the ATO, faces the risk of colliding with any aircraft and of being intercepted by jet fighters of another country whose air space it has entered, according to Venturina.

Camiling, Southern Command chief, said he had instructed his men to keep watch of all airports, particularly those in Zamboanga City, General Santos City and Davao capable of accommodating a Lear jet.

He said "backdoor" routes in Bongao, Tawi-Tawi were also being closely monitored.

No jet or Citation

In Davao City, records at the Flight Service Station (FSS) of the ATO said no jet or Citation aircraft landed in Davao City on Friday.

INQUIRER sources in Manila claimed a jet owned by Cojuangco took off at least three times at the Davao International Airport (DIA) on that day, the same day Estrada allegedly attempted to flee to Indonesia from Davao.

Tranquilino Oljol, FSS-Davao City chief, said no Lear jet or Citation aircraft landed or took off from the DIA that day.

But Oljol said a Lear Jet 45, registered as RPC 1944, touched down at the DIA at 9:57 a.m. Saturday from Pagadian City, where the ousted President's Puwersa ng Masa was campaigning.

Oljol said the plane left 43 minutes later for Butuan City after picking up two passengers identified in the flight plan filed by the pilots as "Rey Gupa" and a "Gen. C. Castillano."

Oljol said the same plane was used by the Puwersa ng Masa's senatorial candidate Panfilo Lacson and reelectionist Sen. Gregorio Honasan when they flew to Davao City from Zamboanga City on Feb. 27.

The plane, owned by Subic Air International Air Charter Inc., was piloted by Capt. Arthur Santos and his co-pilot, Capt. Johnny Gullas.

Slipping in, slipping out

But another ATO official said it was not only the airport that should be watched tightly by the authorities but the privately owned airstrips, especially those owned by the friends of Estrada.

The official, who requested not to be named, noted that airstrips in plantations owned by the Lorenzo family in Barangay Mandug in Davao City, the Rabats in Mati, Davao Oriental and Cojuangco in Malita town, Davao del Sur, can accommodate Lear jets.

The ATO official said Cojuangco slipped back into the country from his post-Edsa self-exile in Australia some 10 years ago on a Lear jet that landed on his airstrip in Malita.

The official said that at that time, the flight plan relayed by the Lear jet's pilot to the ATO indicated a Filipino-Chinese national was on board the plane that took off from an airport in Indonesia en route to Davao International Airport (DIA).

The official said the plane, however, landed at the Malita airstrip to drop off Cojuangco and picked a wealthy Filipino-Chinese-looking person from the airstrip then proceeded to the DIA in accordance with the flight plan.

The ATO failed to detect the jet's landing in Malita because of lack of equipment such as radar, the official said.

The official said a similar strategy was employed by former Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Fabian Ver and his son, who also flew on a Lear jet from Koror in the Republic of Palau, an island country in the Micronesia.

The official also said the same strategy could be employed by Estrada's allies, who might want to help him escape.

Same strategy

The official said it was possible for a pilot to file a flight plan from the Ninoy Aquino International Airport to another country without Estrada on the plane.

The plane, especially a Lear jet, can then land on an airstrip in Mindanao to pick up Estrada and take off again in three to five minutes, en route to its destination abroad, without the ATO detecting it.

The official noted that the airstrip in Mati which is located inside the estate of former Davao Oriental Gov. Francisco Rabat, a close friend of Estrada, was cleared of obstruction starting last week.

Wycoco admitted that the agency could not just arrest Estrada should he decide to leave the country.

"There is no standing warrant for his arrest," said Wycoco who, however, stressed that the Department of Justice, upon the request of Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, had already issued a hold-departure order on Estrada, members of the former first family and several others.

Perez issued the HDO to ensure that Estrada and his fellow respondents would stand trial in connection with the corruption and plunder charges filed before the Ombudsman. ***With reports from Nagiel B. Bañacia PDI Visayas Bureau; Julie Alipala-Inot and Jowel F. Canuday, PDI Minanao Bureau***

Gloria, Cabinet to eat beef in public

(From page A1)

everybody that we believe there is no mad cow disease in the country," Ms Macapagal told a Palace news conference. "There are no indications of mad cow disease in the country."

Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor ate hamburgers for television cameras last week on a trip to Mindanao but Ms Macapagal said it wasn't covered sufficiently by media.

Ms Macapagal's assurance came amid reports that fast-food chains and restaurants serving beef have experienced a drop in sales due to the mad cow disease scare.

The President said Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit had declared that "so far, there are no indications that we have mad cow disease" here.

Ms Macapagal said that the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine was acquiring testing equipment for mad cow disease.

"The public is advised that fresh meat sold in the market is safe; likewise, milk and other dairy products are safe," she added.

She said the health and agriculture departments were undertaking measures to keep the country free of the dread disease. These measures include banning the importation of livestock, meat and bone meal from countries hardest hit by the disease, getting assurance from importers that they will not source beef from these countries and advising consumers against eating beef meat from "unknown sources."

The media have been carrying daily coverage of mad cow disease after authorities announced they seized and sent back several containers of beef imported from Europe.

Although there was no indication the beef was infected, many newspapers called it "mad cow meat" and speculated that some might have slipped into markets.

Most imported beef comes from Australia or New Zealand.

Mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), is believed to cause a brain-wasting illness in humans, known as variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD). The human form has killed some 80 Europeans since the mid-1990s, mostly in Britain. *With Inquirer wires*

MIDNIGHT CALL

Erap ordered me to buy Belle shares–Arellano

BY MICHAEL LIM UBAC

CARLOS Arellano, former chair of the Social Security System (SSS), said that close to midnight on Oct. 6, 1999 he received a call from the then President Joseph Estrada asking him to acquire a stake in Belle Corp. along with the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS).

"*Gusto kong mag-invest kayo ni Ding* (referring to then GSIS president Federico Pascual) . . . *bumili kayo ng* Belle (Belle Corp. shares of stock)," Arellano quoted Estrada as telling him over the phone.

Arellano said in his affidavit that he directed the SSS Investment Department to act on Estrada's "direct order."

"About a week or so thereafter, I was called to the Presidential Residence where I noticed that one of those present was Jaime Dichaves. He then motioned for me to come nearer, after which, he (Estrada) said in private: '*Bumili na ba kayo ng* Belle?'" Arellano said.

Arellano answered, "*Hindi pa, boss, kasi inaayos pa namin.*"

He said Estrada again called him up days later while he was at the SM Megamall in Mandaluyong City. Estrada allegedly told him to immediately confer with Pascual to speed up the purchase. "*Bilisan nyo,*" Estrada allegedly told him.

Pascual, who was GSIS's president from July 1998 to January this year, said in his affidavit that Estrada instructed him to acquire a stake in Belle Corp. on Sept. 6, 1999.

Estrada again followed up the matter when he called Pascual's secretary on Oct. 9, 1999.

At the time Pascual was at the London Heathrow airport on his way to attend a conference at Prague in the Czech Republic.

When he called up Estrada, the latter told him: "What's taking you so long to invest in Belle?"

Pressured by Estrada to invest in Belle, Pascual then called up GSIS in Manila to act on it.

"It must be observed that the bulk of these shares of stock—about 290 million out of the aforesaid 351.8 million—were bought on Oct. 21, 2000, the same day that the SSS bought Belle shares. This is consistent with the President's wishes," he said.

"Were it not for the directive of then President Estrada, the GSIS would not have acquired such a large volume of Belle shares because I personally did not want to touch Belle Corp.," said Pascual who believed that Belle "was perceived to have a speculative flavor in it."

Ocier, for his part, said it was Dichaves who assured him that the GSIS and the SSS would buy Belle's shares of stock.

A second cousin of Dichaves, Ocier claimed that Dichaves told him that the sale would push through if he agreed to give a commission to Estrada.

So on Nov. 3; 1999, at about 10:30 p.m., he met Dichaves in his residence in Corinthian Gardens, Quezon City, and handed a check for P189.7 million issued by Eastern Securities Development Corp.

Ocier said the amount, under I-Bank check No. 6000159271, represented the commission generated from the sale of about 447,650,000 Belle shares.

Perez said Dichaves, in turn, handed the check to Estrada.

7 cops are suspects in Dacer abduction

By Michael Lim Ubac

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation has named seven members of the Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force as suspects in the abduction of public relations man Salvador "Bubby" Dacer.

The NBI said it might also summon top PAOCTF officials in the previous Estrada administration, headed by Panfilo Lacson, former PNP chief and PAOCTF head, to shed light on the kidnapping.

The seven PAOCTF members were earlier charged by the Department of Justice for a raid they conducted on a house near Dacer's home on Marigold Street in Sun Valley Subdivision, Parañaque City.

In a press conference yesterday, NBI Director Reynaldo Wycoco said there was a "strong possible linkage between the raid near Dacer's house and his abduction."

In custody

Wycoco said several witnesses who are now in the custody of the agency have positively identified some of the seven PAOCTF men as the ones who carried out the abduction.

"That's why we say now that there's a possible link between the raid and the abduction," he said.

Wycoco said the NBI was still ascertaining whether it was a "sanctioned operation or a rogue one."

But he said the case was far from being solved because it was possible that many other groups may have participated in the abduction, allegedly in cooperation with the seven. He said the NBI has gathered information that "strongly point in that direction."

The seven PAOCTF men were Police Inspector Wilson Pedido, SPO4 Willy Nuas, PO3 Roco Matic, PO3 Edmund Gacuti, SPO2 Gomercito Cagnayo, Police Inspector Dionisio Bonoy and SPO1 Adelaido Celarco.

Top brass

If necessary, Wycoco said he might summon Lacson and other top former PAOCTF officials, namely, Senior Supt. Michael Ray Aquino, PAOCTF operations chief; Senior Supt. Cesar Mancao, head of PAOCTF task force Luzon; and Senior Supt. Teofilo Viña, chief of the PAOCTF task force Visayas.

Wycoco clarified, however, that these former top PNP officials were not being indicted yet.

"We don't want this to be a political issue. Our concern is mainly to investigate the case," he said.

Wycoco expressed confidence that the agency would soon uncover the motive for the crime as well as the brains behind it.

The raid was carried out on Nov. 21, three days before Dacer and his driver, Manuel Corbito, were forcibly abducted from their vehicle at the corner of the South Superhighway and Zobel and Roxas streets Manila.

The NBI claimed the raid could have been a cover for an intensive surveillance on Dacer. But because of lack of evidence directly linking them to the abduction, Wycoco charged them only for obstruction of justice for "willful suppression of evidence."

Four other unidentified members of the Civilian Armed Forces and Geographical Unit (Cafgu) have been summoned for questioning by the NBI.

The seven PAOCTF members did not appear when invited for questioning by the NBI, prompting Wycoco to file the charges.

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

W (CIVIL PROCEDURE)—Exhaustion of administrative remedies—The principle of exhaustion of administrative remedies has certain exceptions as embodied in various cases. This doctrine is a relative one and is flexible depending on the peculiarity and uniqueness of the factual and circumstantial settings of a case. It is disregarded: (1) when there is a violation of due process; (2) when the issue involved is purely a legal question; (3) when the administrative action is patently illegal and amounts to lack or excess of jurisdiction; (4) when there is estoppel on the part of the administrative agency concerned; (5) when there is irreparable injury; (6) when the respondent is a department secretary whose acts, as an alter ego of the President, bears the implied and assumed approval of the latter; (7) when to require exhaustion of administrative remedies would be unreasonable; (9) when the subject matter is a private land in land case proceedings; (10) when the rule does not provide a plain, speedy and adequate remedy; (11) when there are circumstances indicating the urgency of judicial intervention; and unreasonable delay would greatly prejudice the complainant; (12) when no administrative review is provided by law; (13) where the rule of qualified political agency applies; and (14) when the issue of non-exhaustion of administrative remedies has been rendered moot. Petitioner fails to show that the instant case falls under any of the exceptions. Mere allegation or arbitrariness will not suffice to vest in the trial court the power that has been specifically granted by law to special government agencies. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Pardo, First Division, Province of Zamboanga Del Norte v. Court of Appeals, G.R. No. 109853, October 11, 2000]

Digest by R.B. Vera

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Wednesday, March 7, 2001
1st Week of Lent

1st Reading:	Jonah 3:1-10
Gospel:	Lk 11:29-32

As the crowd increased, Jesus began to speak in this way, "People of the present time are evil people. They ask for a sign, but no sign will be given to them except the sign of Jonah. As Jonah became a sign for the people of Nineveh, so will the Son of Man be a sign for this generation. The Queen of the South will rise up on Judgment Day with the people of these times and accuse them, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and here there is greater than Solomon. The people of Nineveh will rise up on Judgment Day with the people of these times and accuse them, for Jonah's preaching made them turn from their sins, and here there is greater than Jonah."

Commentary

Lent is the time to rouse us up from our self-satisfaction. That is why, Jonah is presented to us as a symbol of our chauvinistic attitudes, which will have to be dashed to pieces to discover the unconditional love of God for us in Jesus. How many of us are like Jonah? We look at God more as one who is quick to punish and execute God's people than one who wants to bring them to their senses, so that they can be more caring for others and creation? Is your God that of Jonah or the Father of Jesus?

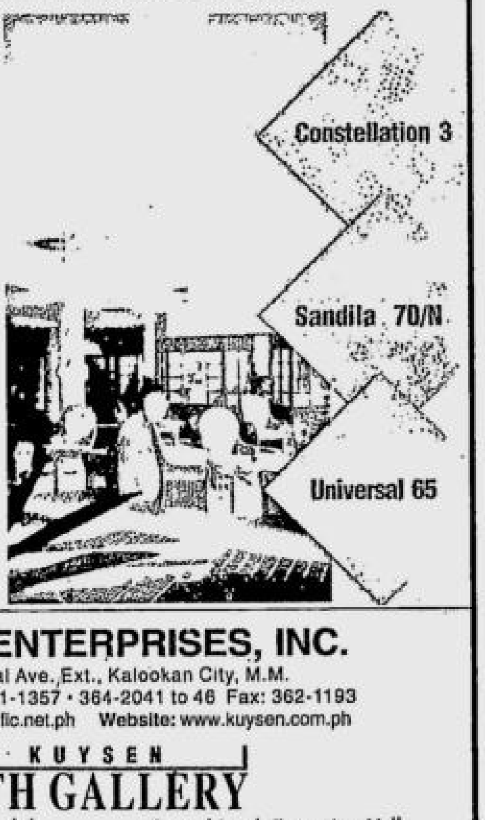
Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cn1.net; Websites:http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

Scenario 2001
EUROPE
April 20 - May 8
Rome, Assisi, Florence, Venice, Vienna, Salzburg, Liechtenstein, Lucerne, Black Forest, Heidelberg, Cologne, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris
Highlights: Schonbrunn Palace, Rhine River Cruise, Mt. Titlis, Volendam, Eiffel Tower, Rue de Bac
With Filipino Tour Escort, European Tour Manager and local guides throughout.
Travel Bounty Inc.
QUALITY TOURS
Simply the Best
Suite 312, The Burgundy Place 174 B. Gonzales Street, Katipunan Ave. Loyola Heights, Q.C.
Tel: 426-6835 * 426-5619 * 929-5503
Fax: 433-4707 * 931-9503
E-mail: travbon@pacific.net.ph
Last few seats Available

We invite you to experience an evening of praise & thanksgiving with
Don MOEN GOD is Good
The Philippine Tour 2001
with Lenny LeBlanc & Rachel Wilson
MARCH 17 • SATURDAY • 8PM
MARCH 18 • SUNDAY • 6:30PM
ARANETA COLISEUM
MARCH 16 • CEBU CITY SPORTS COMPLEX
MARCH 20 • ILOILO SPORTS COMPLEX
MARCH 21 • PANA-AD PARK & STADIUM, BACOLOD CITY
MARCH 23 & 24 • CENTENNIAL EXPO CLARKFIELD, PAMPANGA
Tickets at Popular Prices!
P600 • P500 • P300
P200 • P100
AVAILABLE AT:
MAXMEDIA TICKETING OFFICE
813-8999
893-7737
SM TICKETNET
FOR RESERVATIONS & INQUIRIES
CALL 911-5555
All-New DON MOEN CD's and Cassettes: "I Will Sing", "Mercy Seat", and "En Tu Presencia" now available at Praise, Inc. and your favorite record bars.

DEFINITELY LAST 5 DAYS!!!
Noritake
GREAT WHITE SALE
FACTORY SECOND GRADE FINE PORCELAIN
PLAIN WHITE WARES ONLY
UNBELIEVABLE DISCOUNTS!!!
Complete Set, up to 200,000 pcs. Assorted Models and Shapes
INCLUDING HOTEL AND RESTAURANT WARES
UNTIL SUPPLY LASTS ONLY!!!
9:00 AM up to 6:00 PM OPEN on SATURDAYS and SUNDAYS
NOW AT CONVENIENT LOCATION:
1) LABODA HILL MARKETING (Quezon City)
Araneta Avenue corner Agno Street (near Quezon Avenue)
Tel. Nos. 711-2944, 711-4082; Fax No. 711-2992
2) KM. 16 WEST SERVICE ROAD, South Expressway
(Beside Europharma) near Bicutan Exit, Parañaque
Tel. Nos. 776-3269; Telefax 823-6315
3) II XAVIERVILLE AVENUE, Xavierville Village
(near C-5 and Ateneo), Quezon City
ABOVE ITEMS FOR SALE ARE MANUFACTURED BY PORCELANA NORITAKE MFG., INC.... CLASSIFIED AS SECOND GRADE WARES
DTI APPROVED ADS - NCR PERMIT NO. 3324 SERIES 2000

OWAcoustic ceilings
INNUMERABLE SOLUTION FOR CEILING PROBLEMS
Materials made from White Mineral Wool, free from harmful substances
OWAcoustic boards are known for its degree of sound reduction, acoustic control, fire protection, and thermal control available in various models to fit your specifications.



Sole Agent:
KUYSEN ENTERPRISES, INC.
232-234 Rizal Ave. Ext., Kalookan City, M.M.
Tels.: 361-1415 • 361-1357 • 364-2041 to 46 Fax: 362-1193
E-mail: kuysen@pacific.net.ph Website: www.kuysen.com.ph
KUYSEN BATH GALLERY
Home Buddies Section, Level 4, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City, Tel Nos. 729-55-30 • 729-35-95
Ground Level, Expansion Mall, Alabang Town Center, Ayala Alabang, Tel Nos. 807-89-12 • 807-33-29

Auto Loan
Kam Ki Lam
Anabelle Escueta
Sonny Chua
Housing Loan
Romeo Du
Juanito Pontiveros
Philip Von Naldoza
Their One Month Amortization.
Auto Loan
Segundo Enerio
Mariano Florentino
Ponciano Mina
Housing Loan
Melissa Chian
Chadwick Arcinue
Helen Sevilla
Their 3 Months Amortization.
Auto Loan
Alexander Aquino
Housing Loan
Imelda Mateo
THEIR ENTIRE LOAN up to ₱1,000,000
Have All Been ERASED!
Congratulations To All The Winners!
HAPPY FAMILY AUTO LOAN
Get your dream on the road
HAPPY FAMILY HOUSING LOAN
Leading you home
ERASE Your LOAN
Watch OUT for the next exciting promo! Soon to roll OUT nationwide!
150 YEARS
BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS
A tradition of leadership
BPI FAMILY BANK
Per DTI-NCR Permit No.0799 Series of 2000

RECYCLED NEWSPRINT • ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY • 100% soy ink •

OPINION

e-mail: feedback@inquirer.com.ph website: http://www.inquirer.net

EUGENIA D. APOSTOL
Founding Chairman

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

Vol. 16 No. 89
ISSN 0116-2642

ISAGANI YAMBOT
Publisher
LETTY JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC
Editor in Chief
JOSE MA. D. NOLASCO
Managing Editor
ABELARDO S. ULANDAY
Associate Editor
ARTEMIO T. ENGRACIA JR.
News Editor
NILO B. PAUROM
Assistant News Editor
PERGENTINO B. BANDAYREL JR.
National Editor
GERRY LIRIO
City Editor
JORGE V. ARUTA
Opinion Editor
ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO
Senior Deskperson
AMANDO DORONILA
Editorial Consultant

MARIXI R. PRIETO
Board Chairman
ALEXANDRA PRIETO-ROMUALDEZ
President
RENATO R. REINOSO
Senior Vice President for Sales and Marketing
DAVID O. VALDES
Senior Vice President for Corporate Services
FELIPE R. OLARTE
VP for Advertising
GLORIA P. LARDIZABAL
AVP for Circulation

The PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, INC. has its business and editorial offices at Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati • P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office, 1263 Makati City, Philippines • Our new telephone numbers are 897-8808 connecting all departments; Editorial Fax 897-4793, 897-4794; Advertising 897-4807; Circulation 527-33-42, 527-33-48, 528-01-83, 528-01-86 and 528-02-13, Fax: 528-02-34.

All rights reserved. Subject to the conditions provided for by law, no article or photograph published by the Philippine Daily Inquirer may be reprinted or reproduced, in whole or in part, without its prior consent.

Election issues

EDITORIALS

IN THE aftermath of People Power II, there is now a greater awareness of the need for issues-oriented politics. Some people believe that if the 1998 election campaign had focused on specific issues and scrutinized thoroughly the capability and the track records of candidates, Joseph Ejercito Estrada may not have been elected President. We say "may not" because no scientific study has been made of the show-biz element as a factor in the election of Estrada.

With the lesson learned by the people from the incompetent and scandal-ridden Estrada presidency, we should think that they would be more discriminating in the choice of people that they will elect to public office. Today's mayor may become tomorrow's senator and tomorrow's senator may just become President within the decade. The voters have it in their power to prevent a possible recurrence of the Erap disaster.

It thus behooves the media and civil society to take the lead in drawing up the issues to be discussed in the current election campaign and in formulating guidelines for assessing the fitness of the candidates for public office. The INQUIRER is doing its part in the effort to draw up national as well as local electoral agendas. Yesterday the paper played host to a focus group discussion on the issues and concerns of various sectors of society. It was an interesting discussion, and it helped educate and inform the editors on some of the issues that have to be raised in the election campaign.

Among the issues raised yesterday were transparency in campaign financing, the motives of candidates for running for office, the framework of development, environmental concerns, the problem of poverty, real agrarian reform, the reproductive health rights of women, the trafficking of women, the creation of a Department of Housing, a "humane" demolition and eviction plan, a wholistic approach to the so-called "Mindanao problem," discrimination against minorities, tuition fee increases, the quality of education and the problems of the handicapped. It was just an overview of the issues. The editors hope to refine the agenda in the days to come.

What is important is that specific questions be formed, many of them answerable by yes or no, so that candidates can be pinned down on specific issues. For instance, on the matter of campaign financing, candidates will have to disclose where they got the money for their campaigns so the voters will know to whom they will be beholden if they get elected.

But it is not enough to discuss the issues. The media and civil society will also have to focus on the capability of the candidates to govern and perform the functions of the offices they are running for. They will have to scrutinize resumés, the candidates' track records, their voting records (if they were in the Senate or the House or in provincial or municipal boards), and their decisions on major issues if they've occupied elective executive positions before.

Talleyrand said war is much too serious a thing to be left to military men. Similarly, elections are much too important to be left to politicians. The media, civil society—everybody has to get involved in the discussion of issues in the election campaign. It is the welfare not only of the present generation but also of future generations that we are talking of.

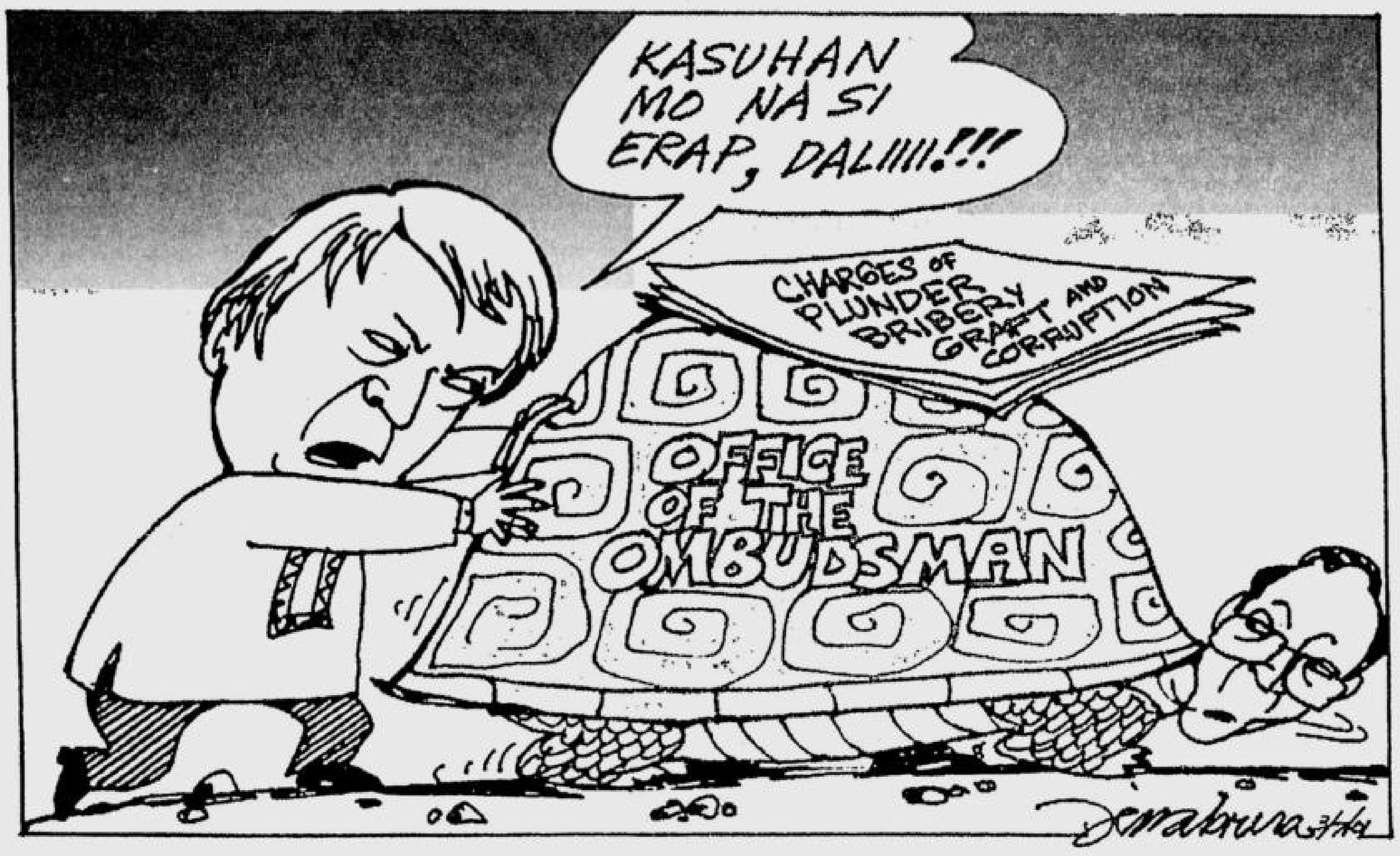
A mind of their own

AS women mark International Women's Day tomorrow, there seems to be enough cause to celebrate: a second woman President in less than 10 years, several women appointed to the Cabinet and a virtual avalanche of women candidates in the May elections. Such indicators leave little doubt that Filipino women have acquired political savvy and are assuming leadership roles in national affairs.

From their unusual and creative campaign to win the vote in the 1930s to more recent times when they organized the women's political party Abanse! Pinay and won a party-list seat, Filipino women have always claimed their public voice. Though women comprise just about half of the population and fill only 12-15 percent of electoral seats, more women than men consistently cast their votes during elections. More women too work behind the scenes as organizers, coordinators and staff workers of electoral candidates. Public school teachers, almost all of them women, weigh in as well in every election bolstering its credibility and making sure the count is right.

It is thus a time of reckoning for a lot of women, both the candidates and voters. Is political office the quickest—and only—way to empowerment? Can women be expected to translate their different experiences, visions and values into non-traditional politics? Are women really different from men when it comes to politics? Can women see beyond family and small-town politics to think with a mind of their own?

The questions have been asked. We can start from there.


KASUHAN MO NA SI ERAP, DALIIIII!!!
CHARGES OF PLUNDER BRIBERY GRAFT AND CORRUPTION
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

'Constructive resignation, dismissal' explained

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

PRESIDENT Estrada did not sign a formal letter of resignation but the Supreme Court ruled that he did resign—"constructively." An employee signed a letter of resignation but the labor court, the National Labor Relations Commission, ruled that he did not resign willingly but was illegally dismissed—"constructively."

Confusing? Yes, but only to non-lawyers. It is said that a lawyer can make a straight line crooked and black look white. So, as shown above, justices made Erap resign although there is no letter of resignation anywhere and made an employee a victim of illegal dismissal although there is an existing letter of resignation. The trick is in the word "constructive"—hence "constructive dismissal," a common practice of unscrupulous employers, and now "constructive resignation."

One of the definitions for "constructive" by Webster's New World Dictionary is this: "inferred or implied by legal or judicial interpretation,'" "not directly expressed but inferred or deduced on the basis of interpretation and implication," as in "constructive dismissal."

The term is well-known to lawyers, especially labor lawyers because it is a frequent violation by employers, so it is a wonder why two well-known lawyers, Edgardo Angara and Rene Saguisag, dispute it. It is used against employees they want to get rid of but cannot because the law forbids it. To get around this prohibition, employers force the employee to resign, or abolish his position, or declare his position "redundant" and commit other tricks. The law and the courts see through these tricks. They call these subterfuges "constructive dismissal" and punish the employers with stiff fines and payment of damages and back salaries to the aggrieved employee.

A resignation that is forced is no resignation at all but a dismissal, a "constructive dismissal" which is illegal. While there may not be any document saying that the employee is being "dismissed," the illegal dismissal is inferred or implied or deduced by the court on the basis of its interpretation of the acts of the employer. It is the intent of the employer, which is to dismiss his worker, and not the documents that show otherwise, that is paramount. The evidence presented by the employer may show that the worker is not being dismissed but if, as a result of that, he loses his job anyway, that is constructive dismissal and the employer must be punished. To quote a legal maxim, "it is the intent and not the letter of the law that is paramount." Even if the letter of the law says one thing but the intent of the framers of the law is another, that intent must be respected.

Thus, in the case of Erap, the Supreme Court interpreted from his actions that he intended to resign and leave the presidency. The tribunal said that Erap's intention was clear in the diary of then Executive Secretary Angara, which was published by the INQUIRER—about the final hours of Erap in Malacañang. That diary provided the "authoritative window into the state of mind" of Estrada, said the Court.

According to the Angara diary, the Court said, Erap's loyal advisers, on the morning of Jan. 19, "were worried about the swelling crowd at Edsa (Mendiola?)…At 1:20 p.m., petitioner (Erap) pulled Secretary Angara into his small office and explained 'Ed, *seryoso na ito. Kumalas na si* Angelo (Reyes, the AFP chief of staff).' At 2:30 p.m. Erap decided to call for a snap presidential election. He announced this on television, stressing that he would not be a candidate.

"The proposal for a snap election for president in May where he would not be a candidate is *indicium* that the petitioner had intended to give up the presidency at the time," the Court said.

It added that when Erap told Angara that General Reyes had guaranteed another five days stay for him in Malacañang, and a dignified exit for him after that, "this is proof that petitioner had reconciled himself to the reality that he had to resign."

Indeed, according to the Angara diary, Erap had agreed to sign a letter of resignation during talks with the transition team of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo but was overtaken by swiftly moving events on the morning of Jan. 20.

Thus, the tribunal inferred from Erap's actions that he was intent on resigning although events prevented him from actually signing a letter of resignation. There is a valid resignation nevertheless, the Court ruled. That is "constructive resignation."

Thus, Erap was deemed to have resigned although he had no letter of resignation (that is a mere technicality) because he had intended to resign at that critical time on Jan. 20. On the other hand, the employee, although he signed a letter of resignation, was deemed not to have resigned because he really had no intention of resigning but was merely forced into signing the letter. That explains the apparent contradiction.

Intent and free will are the defining factors. For example, when a woman is forced to have sex against her will, that is rape; when she is coaxed or tricked into having sex, that is seduction. Both are crimes. But when she does it willingly, that is making love, and is a legal, beautiful act.

'Komedi'

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

FRANKLY, I didn't know what to expect from Peta's Komedi Club, which was launched last Thursday at the Rajah Sulaiman Theater. I thought it would go the route of stand-up comedies, which seem to be thriving in several clubs in Malate and Quezon City these days. Noel Cabangon did tell me when I saw him the night before that Peta's fare consisted of five fairly long skits of various moods and themes. Beyond that I knew little else.

The Komedi Club, which Peta means to be a regular feature, was actually set to launch a week earlier, but bad weather spoiled rehearsals and so delayed the launching date. The boon and bane of Rajah Sulaiman, a theater in the deepest recesses of Intramuros carved out from among its ruins, is that it is open-air. On a good day, when the stars are out and breezes are blowing, it is a spectacular sight, especially when lit imaginatively. Its play on light and shadow is theater by itself. On a bad night, when the skies threaten rain or deliver it, well, you remember only that the Americans turned Manila into the second most devastated city (after Warsaw) with their bombs during the Liberation.

It was the first last Thursday, a night of stars and balmy breeze, which augured well for an evening of merriment. It made the smile in the mask of comedy look a little broader. The fare that night was the first in Peta's series of comedy offerings for the month. This week's fare, which will show from tomorrow to Saturday, will be different, as will next week's and the week after that. I do hope they do the whole series again sometime in the future. If the first of the series is any indication, it richly deserves it.

True enough, there were five segments in the presentation. But this wasn't stand-up comedy, or skits in the TV sitcom sense of the word. This was real theater, and of a fairly high caliber. The comedy was not the raucous, laugh-a-minute, drum-roll-after-the-punch line variety. Though it was zany enough, even surreal at some point, and exuded much manic energy, it was the thoughtful kind that left something behind. You left the place carrying something away, the way the stones of Intramuros jutting up to the sky carry the image of the edifice that once stood there.

There was satire, and parody, and a lot of physical comedy, but you did not end up guffawing or laughing hysterically. Though several people did exactly that when I watched it—to each his own expression of mirth. You chuckled, or laughed inwardly, the laughter at some points choked off by lumps in the throat.

The skits were particularly noteworthy for their variety and inventiveness. The first consisted of several offbeat and slightly off-color dances on the theme of yearning and frustration. Yes, yearning and frustration, made to look and sound funny. It was the kind of comedy that made you glimpse the truth of that discovery, made by all the real comedians since Aristophanes, that ultimately laughter comes from pain. That comedy is more intricately allied to tragedy than we think.

But that sounds too ponderous, and there was nothing ponderous about the routine at all. The dancers were sharp, executing their movements with fluidity and grace. Unfortunately, I just saw a group of German dancers perform last Christmas at Aguinaldo Theater (courtesy of the Goethe House) that bowled me over—it was sheer genius what they did—and that kept intruding on my mind. Particularly, since the latter also treaded on the same tragicomic ground. But give Peta time.

The rest of the skits were the more usual skit-type, but which differed from each other in tone and theme as Woody Allen differs from Steve Martin. All had an undertone of social commentary, the kind Peta excels in, slipped across with various degrees of subtlety. This is medicine that comes in fruity flavors. The second skit was a spoof on the game shows that offer huge cash prizes. A teenager uses his mother's medicine money to get to the show, which he hopes to win and so pluck his mother from her deathbed. I will not say more—the skit has abundant suspense to add to the humor.

The third featured a sci-fi adventure brimming with "swardspeak," which we take it will be the language of the future. It was the zaniest of the lot, with an outrageously melodramatic twist thrown in the end. The fourth was a group of young people applying for a job, each one revealing his true self (a *probinsiyano* down on his luck, a paranoid addict, a sex fiend, a closet gay) behind the mask he is wearing (an exclusive school graduate, Miss Geniality, a yuppie, a macho man). The last—could Peta have been without it?—featured Erap's mistresses finding themselves in fitful company on a plane about to depart for distant shores.

There were a few rough edges and first-day jitters, but overall the presentation had a polished look. Jet Pangan of the Dawn appears in the fourth skit. He does a creditable job, though he tends to be drowned out by his fellows. I half suspect it has to do with his role—he is the yuppie-sex fiend—which compels him to speak in straight English, which offers few comic possibilities. I am glad though that he is willing to take risks and bring himself to explore uncharted terrain. I saw him last year in "Jesus Christ, Superstar" and he was magnificent as Pilate. That he should venture beyond the boundaries of musical theater, and go boldly where few rock stars have gone before—into comedy—there's hope for Philippine rock music and comedy yet.

I do hope Peta's Komedi Club flourishes. No, more than that, I do hope their brand of comedy flourishes, and encourages others to follow suit. Surely, there must be limits to the hare-brained (but even hares are funny!) humor that is trotted out in local sitcoms? I do think Filipino audiences have become more sophisticated—proof of it is declining patronage for idiotic movies, which incredibly local producers try to stem by producing even more idiotic skin flicks—and demand better dialogues in the stuff they watch. It takes intelligence to be funny, as Peta proves in its newest offering.

And well, the guys there have seen a lot of pain. That's how they are able to make people laugh.

Housing people

COMMENTARY

Andrea Soco
Institute on Church and Social Issues

IT was the first time I saw poverty stare at me in the face. In the course of my work, I've been to many urban poor areas in Metro Manila, from informal settlements in garbage dumps to those along riverbanks. But while visiting relocatees transferred from the Pasig River area to a low-cost housing subdivision in Cavite, I felt poverty, though it was disguised in a nice house and a clean environment. In the site, the people we spoke to were sad and bored, and the only thing that kept them going was the thought that things might soon change for the better.

Inday of Bacolod, is a 30-year-old homemaker who owns a unit in one of the sites. She and her six children were just finishing their lunch of rice when we arrived. Manong, a neighbor from Pasig who lives in the unit next to hers, was there, sharing their food. As soon as we were settled, one of Inday's children swept the floor while Inday hushed her crying baby. Despite the chaos, Inday and Manong willingly recounted their experiences at the site and recalled happy times along the Pasig River.

"We had a lot of things to do there. We could engage in all sorts of income-generating activities. There, you can cook *balot* to sell and earn enough to feed your family." According to them, life in Cavite was bearable. They did their best to make a living: Manong sells fish balls in the area while Inday takes in laundry. But despite trying to hide it, a great deal of loneliness was evident on their faces. And who can blame them for feeling that way? They were not only uprooted from their homes but were also separated from their families. To earn a living, Inday's husband stayed in Pasig as a construction worker. Manong's children also remained there to work and only occasionally visited him in the site. Manong and Inday might have gained new houses in relocation but they lost a whole lot more.

Relocation, the government's main tool in easing the urban poor housing problem, can also be a bane to the people it should serve. Many relocatees, particularly those along the Pasig River, had lived in the area for more than 10 years before they were transferred. In the course of their stay there, they had made friends, established a means of livelihood and become attached to the place.

When I visit informal settlements, I am amazed by how people can live in such squalid conditions. And though I feel indignant about it because I believe that every human being has a right to decent shelter, the feeling is mitigated somehow by the happiness I see on the people's faces. They know they're poor and they know sooner or later they would have to leave, especially if their houses are located in danger zones, but in the meantime, they revel in the thought that friends and relatives live nearby, schools and health centers are a short walk away and earning a living can be done just around the corner.

With relocation, the social capital built over the years collapses in a matter of hours. Lucky are those who have been relocated along with neighbors and who have not been removed from their families. It might be easier for them to adjust. Inday and Manong, and most other relocatees we talked to, coped with problems in their Cavite home through the support of neighbors. But to think that this solves the problem would be a superficial way of looking at the putative benefits of relocating whole communities. The people still have to face bigger issues, such as where to get money to feed their families, pay the amortization and send their children to school. As Manong puts it, "In the Pasig area, I could work at any time of the day, even until late at night. Here, I have to return home early because I don't feel safe." One relocatee said that it has been difficult borrowing money from neighbors because they were all broke.

The government has various socialized housing programs but relocation seems to be first on its list of options. Relocation can certainly improve the life of informal settlers and many urban poor when the idea behind it is to give people what they need and rightly deserve—just and humane living conditions.

Past administrations seemed to play a numbers game when they tried to relocate as many people in the least time possible. In 1999 in fact, relocation registered a 109-percent accomplishment rate. Most of the families transferred were those affected by government infrastructure and rehabilitation projects like the Pasig River Rehabilitation Project, R10 Road Right of Way, C5 and Kamanava flood control project, to name a few. In other words, the families were moved because they were in the way.

And they were simply given housing units regardless of the conditions in the chosen sites. After all, compared to their previous shelter conditions, wouldn't they be happy now with much better houses and cleaner surroundings? Relocation with this idea in mind is like giving lollipop to a child who has a stomachache to make him stop moaning about it.

Issues in relocation sites have been enumerated and aired for a couple of years now. Officials in the housing sector are probably tired of hearing the same things—livelihood, basic services, etc.—over and over again. But these issues keep resurfacing precisely because people are involved. People suffer when these problems are not addressed. It doesn't help that in some sites, very little has been done to tackle these problems. Now, one DPWH official is asking President Macapagal to revoke the moratorium on demolitions and evictions. So what does he plan to do with the 1.5 million informal settlers who would be affected should the President listen to him? We are talking about people here, people who have feelings, people who have roots. They are not furniture one can simply move around or throw out when not needed anymore.

Inday and Manong entertain thoughts of returning to the Pasig area or moving elsewhere. When people become depressed and dissatisfied in the course of a program that should have the opposite effect, then it's about time to rethink such program and its goals.

Party-list primer

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THE PARTY-LIST system is a political innovation introduced by the framers of the 1987 Constitution to democratize the Philippine political system and equalize opportunities for political participation, especially for marginalized and under-represented groups and sectors.

For this reason, the Constitution names specific sectors qualified to name nominees for the House of Representatives under the party-list system. Among these sectors are peasants, fisher folk, urban poor, workers, the disabled, indigenous cultural communities, youth, the elderly and women. Note that though women are not just a "sector," composing half of the population, in terms of political representation they are as marginalized and under-represented as other sectors. But it can also be said that women compose half of every sector.

The enabling law on the party-list added other "sectors" to the list: veterans, overseas workers and the amorphous group of "professionals." It also allows political parties as well as multi-sectoral parties and other organizations to take part in the party-list system. In other words, as columnist Jessica Zafra says, even "Star Trek fans or Trekkies" may be entitled to run under the party-list system. Well, not exactly. Ostensibly, the Comelec requires groups seeking to take part in the party-list elections to prove that they are a "serious" group, with the capacity to launch a credible national or regional campaign. Trekkies, unless there are more of them in our midst than is imagined, might have a hard time getting accredited.

* * *

BUT not, apparently, a party like MAD, or Mamamayan Ayaw sa Droga. Objections raised against MAD's taking part in the party-list system are based not just on the fact that its first nominee is actor Richard Gomez, though that may be enough reason to doubt its seriousness of purpose.

No, the basic objection to MAD is that it is a government-sponsored organization, which is not allowed to participate under the party-list law. I've overheard Comelec Commissioner Luz Tancangco (yes, her again) being interviewed on radio about MAD, and vehemently defending it, saying that as far as she knew, MAD is an NGO.

Well, I suggest that Commissioner Tancangco take a close look at those ubiquitous MAD billboards that have been posted on every light pole on traffic islands for more than a year now. Below the MAD logo is the notation: "A Project Under the Office of the President." Now, if that doesn't make MAD a government-sponsored group, I don't know what is.

Tancangco and the Comelec should make sure these are the tin billboards, though, not the newsprint posters that have lately joined the other campaign paraphernalia littering our streets.

Speaking of which, my friend John Silva seems to have been transformed into a bulldog with its teeth on the pants of an intruder, not letting go without exacting a pound of flesh or a pint of blood. Silva is not giving up on his fight to clear our public spaces of those ugly, unsightly campaign posters that crumble at the slightest whiff of wind, dirtying our already dismal surroundings. What is the Comelec doing about this rampant violation of election laws? he asks. If the Comelec will not do anything about it, Silva suggests that voters act in the only way they know how: refuse to vote for any candidate who persists on violating both our laws and our sensibilities.

* * *

A FEW things to remember about the party-list vote:

- You are voting for a party, not its nominees. On the slot beside "Party-list" on the ballot, you should write the name of the party you are voting for, not the sector or the name of the nominee.
- To qualify for at least one seat in the House, a party-list group must garner at least 2 percent of the total votes cast for the party-list. By most estimates, this 2-percent threshold is around 500,000 votes. The number of representatives it may get to seat is determined through a proportional reckoning.
- A party-list group is entitled to seat no more than three representatives, regardless of the number of votes it may manage to win. It is required, however, to submit a list of at least five nominees, in the event anyone among the top three cannot take his/her seat.
- You are entitled to vote for only one party-list group. So even if you may be a woman, living in an urban poor community and disabled, you will have to choose which of these sectors you wish to support, and then which party you will vote for.
- By law, 20 percent of the total seats in the House, now placed at 52 seats, is reserved for the party-list. But according to the Supreme Court decision, to qualify, a party-list group must still meet the 2 percent minimum.

* * *

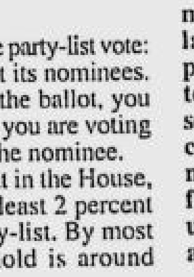
AS voters, we are left with a choice. One is to support those party-list groups that will help advance the goal set by the framers of the Constitution: that is, the renewal of our political system. The other is to waste that opportunity by voting for a pseudo-party-list group or not voting at all.

The party-list system, if taken seriously, has the potential for changing Philippine politics by allowing new ideas, new ways of doing things and new ways of winning votes into our moribund political structures. We all say we want to be wiser voters. Well, voting wisely means voting for a party platform and a clear political agenda, not for a telegenic candidate or one who's simply popular.

Think about it. A vested interest or commercial pursuit does not a platform or legislative agenda make, much less a genuine party-list group. Neither is a party-list meant to be a "junior" version of a political party, as some party leaders seem to think, fielding their children as nominees in their party-list organization. And I don't think the Constitution's framers meant the party-list system as a backup plan for the fading careers of overexposed actors and commercial endorsers.

Treatment of primary sources

LOOKING BACK



Ambeth R. Ocampo

THERE is always something to be found when a historian returns to the primary sources. I had seen and read the printed version of Jose Rizal's medical notebooks, I thought I knew them well but when I saw the original notebook I asked, how come the anatomical drawings were never published with the text? Did previous editors feel that the proliferation of penises and breasts would scandalize readers and scholars?

The same kind of subjective editing is true with other compiled historical sources. It has been a habit of some contemporary historians to harp on the mistranslations and gaps in the "Blair and Robertson" that contains documents from the 15th to the 19th century in English. This makes us wonder how much more is waiting to be uncovered. Why are the documents in Taylor so damning to Aguinaldo and the First Philippine Republic? In every compilation an editorial choice is made—no historian can be objective—simply by choosing which documents to include or delete, which documents to print whole or in part, a subjective decision is being made. Can historians be objective? Can we ever find real history? Can we ever find truth in history? One of the humbling aspects of history is that no historian can ever claim to be definitive, to have the last word. Today's historian simply wishes that his successors are not too harsh on his analysis, based on what he knew and had in his time.

I bring this up because in the past few years I have marveled at technology and seen some of its failings. Researching in Spain in 1997, I requested a document I had seen over a decade earlier but was too *kuripot* to make a photocopy. I needed the document for the centennial and was happy to see that the catalogue had been computerized. However, the document I wanted was not listed and the librarian insisted that if it was not in the Online Public Access Catalog (Opac), "*no existe*" (it did not exist)! I insisted that I had seen the document before but they would not budge. Fortunately, I had the old call numbers and the document was eventually traced.

Back home I noted that many university students today go through Opac, unmindful of cutoff dates. Some do not know that many parts of a library are still on old-fashioned card catalogues. Until those old books are encoded into the computers they will be largely inaccessible to researchers who are not diligent. Worse, there are some libraries that limit access to their collections through their computers and catalogues. For example, in one archive, I was looking over the personal papers of someone I knew. I was surprised that the diaries I knew he kept were not listed in the guide. When I inquired I was told that these materials were restricted and could only be accessed 10 years after the donor's death, but then shouldn't everything be listed in a catalogue? Even those that can only be opened after a certain time? Imagine a researcher going through these catalogues and finding guides not knowing that there is more than actually listed?

Finally, we have the question of text and e-mail—even fax on thermal paper that fades within a year. How much history is being recorded, how much is just flying about in cyberspace? What about materials stored in diskettes—no hard copies? First, there are problems with mold on diskettes, then other technical problems like material stored on say, ancient word processing programs like Wordstar or early Microsoft Word that will not run on Windows. Technical incompatibility means that unless a hard copy is made, material converted to another medium or program saved on diskettes will be lost. So much for the dream of a paperless society.

In the US National Archives one will encounter a snag when you request the infamous Watergate tapes not because access is restricted, rather the problem is with technology. There are only two machines that can play these outdated tapes. These have not been converted to other media. At the University of Chicago Special Collections I wanted to listen to interviews with H. Otley Beyer made in the 1960s. These were all on reels and the library did not have the machine to playback the tapes. I would have to request that it be transferred to a cassette—$25 fee for this service—wait a few weeks and all that time wonder if the material on the tape is relevant to my research. What becomes of the Marcelino Foronda Oral History Collection on cassette in a digital CD-ROM world?

While technology has advanced, the skills of a historian remain basically the same as the time of Herodotus to search for truth in the most unexpected places. With technological advancement the tools of the historian have changed. We do not use quill pens anymore and instead use laptop computers, but the challenges to the historian have grown. History is not confined to libraries and archives anymore, it is found in other places, sometimes in everyday things. How the historian will meet and cope with these challenges, I hope to see in my lifetime and if I should hazard a guess, I hope to look back to this lecture of 2001, 20, 30 years from now and not complain that much of our current history was lost due to an advance in technology.

* * *

Comments are welcome at ambeth@admu.edu.ph

Radio-miniscences

HIGH BLOOD

Mart R. del Rosario

WE'D also like to know the concerns of the sixtysomething and above, what makes their blood pressure rise or makes them sit back, content that all's well with their world and with themselves. —**Ed.**

"WHAT do you remember about the '50s?" Ben asks. "Me, it's radio, the fun, the excitement, the thrill it brought and how it touched and molded the lives of many."

I scratch my head. Radio? Thrill? What thrill? What could have made Ben think radio was the best thing that ever happened in the '50s? It was my graduation from high school and college, my first date, the jam sessions, barn dances, rock and roll. These were the most memorable things about the '50s!

Ben and I are sipping beer at the patio of the clubhouse of the Intramuros Golf Links, two aging men-of-substance wannabes shooting the breeze, reminiscing about the good old days.

Ben slouches on his chair, puts his feet on the table and cupping his head with his hands, gazes directly at the sky now beginning to take on the color of dusk.

There weren't so many radio stations then, Ben said. The major ones were dzRH, dzPI, dzMB, dzFM, dzBB and dzBC.

DZRH was the clear leader of the pack in terms of everything: listenership, talent stable, programming, etc.

Just look at the marquee names on its announcing team: Hal Bowie, Ira Davis, Larry Ng, Ray Oliver, Jess Fernandez, Rafael Yabut, Ric Tierro, Louie Garcia, Simeon Bonson, Vero Perfecto, Ray Cordova.

Against these heavyweights, competition could only weakly put up Simoun Almario of dzFM, Dick Taylor of dzBC and Bob Stewart of dzBB.

DZRH had control of the morning broadcast time. At 8:30, Yabut went on the air with this program "Tayo'y Mag-aliw." It started as a variety show but metamorphosed into a news and commentary program. The program became so popular and powerful that its host, Yabut, was actually nominated for senator by the Nacionalista Party.

"Tayo'y Mag-aliw" aired from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. but it could just as well have gone all the way to 10:30 a.m. So popular was the program that the station invented a program sequel: "Tayo'y Uminom...ng Clicquot Club," sponsored naturally by a soft drink company.

Soap operas and comedy shows were the popular staples of radio then as they are now.

Again dzRH was the leader in this program format.

In the morning, starting at 11, dzRH aired four drama series: "Dr. Ramon Selga," "Gulong ng Palad," "Aklat ng Pag-ibig" and "Ilaw ng Tahanan."

In the afternoon, dzRH had "Tatlong Limbas" followed by the most popular drama series ever, "Prinsipe Amante."

DZRH also had the most popular quiz show "Timpalak ng Purico" and another weekly drama anthology, "Sa Paghawi ng Tabing," which starred Rosa Rosal and Jaime dela Rosa. "Timpalak's" quiz master was Sixto Castro who composed Tagalog verses on the spot in his interviews with contestants.

What about other stations? Well, dzFM had the best comedy show, "Edong Mapangarap," starring Pugo and Togo, Joan Page and Eddie San Jose. DZBC had an evening drama series, which captured the imagination of listeners far beyond expectation. It was "Digmaan ng Damdamin" which catapulted one Artemio Marquez to fame. Marquez would later add to his fame by invading the movies as director and siring several children including former Miss International Melanie Marquez and basketball star-actor-comedian now Parañaque Mayor Joey Marquez.

Announcers and radio talents at that time developed personal trademarks, which made them distinctly different from one another.

For example, one radio announcer would end his spiel as follows: "*Ito ang inyong hamak na lingkod sa himpapawid,* Conde Ubaldo."

Another would say, "*Ito ang inyong* Tiya Dely *na nagpapaalam sa iyo, sa iyo, at higit sa lahat sa iyo.*"

There weren't many news and political commentators then. The best of the lot was Francisco "Soc" Rodrigo whose pure Bulacan Tagalog and impeccable delivery made him the darling of the sober and the serious. He used his "Mga Kuro-Kuro ni Francisco 'Soc' Rodrigo" as springboard to a Senate seat in 1955.

But the most colorful of the commentators then was none other than Damian Sotto. A self-confessed atheist, his favorite target for his barbs was the Church, followed by erring public officials and entities that struck his fancy.

Thumping the table, he would thunder:

"*Hindi ko sinasabing si* Imelda *ay patutot! Tandaan ninyo 'yan ha? Na ano? Na hindi ko sinasabing si* Imelda *ay patutot.*"

Ka Damian's pet causes were the elimination of gasoline-powered vehicles in the road and their replacement with good old *kalesas* and *karitelas*.

"*Bakit?*" he would thunder, always thumping the table, "*Dahil hindi na tayo aangkat ng gasolina, o hindi ba magaling 'yan? Makakahanap-buhay ang mga sakatero ng damo, karsilya, manggagawa ng gurnasyon, mga* sofa, *kuchero.*"

His other chief cause was the redemption by the Japanese of the Mickey Mouse money they printed by the millions during the war. Sotto was chief propagandist of the Japwancap or Japanese War Notes Claimants Association of the Philippines headed by Alfredo Abcede.

But perhaps the best entertaining radio comedy show in the '50s was "Kuwentong Kutsero." "Kuwentong Kutsero" dealt with the misadventures of a *kutsero*, played by comedian Casmot, and his family which consisted of among others, stone-deaf Lolo Hugo who could only get straight what the other characters were telling him if repeated to him by the youngest member of the family.

The charm of "Kuwentong Kutsero" lay in its funny and irreverent views of contemporary social and political life. Criticism of the high and the mighty was never more engaging and humorous.

Evenings from nine to sign-off time, radio's servings were romantic music.

Most popular of this type of program was "Request Jamboree" hosted by the original *kilabot ng colegiala*, Dick Taylor. The program's format was simple: Taylor read dedication requests from listeners, which could take as long as five minutes, and then played the requested record.

For the more sedate and sophisticated, the programs of choice were Ray Oliver's "Meralco Hour" and Ric Tierro's "Silahis ng Pag-Asa." Both played light classics and Broadway hits.

"The notable thing about radio of the '50s," Ben says, "was the quality of announcers then. They spoke English with correct pronunciation and impeccable accents. Their voices were a pleasure to hear. Unlike today's announcers who '*pinabili lang ng suka ay nag*-announcer *na agad.*'"

Ben looked agitated as he expressed his stinging displeasure of the current crop of radiomen. "Ben," I say, "time to move on to another subject."

Ben was not quite ready to drop his nostalgia trip. Until I mention the one conversation topic he would drop anything and everything else for: girls.

And so Ben is pried from his reminiscences of the '50s and now animatedly talks of his impression of the new umbrella girl he is currently casting his amorous eyes on. Night has fallen. We hear soft music coming from inside the clubhouse. Ben continuously talks as he gazes at the sky now completely sown with stars. Nostalgia is forgotten. Ben is now completely taken over by the thoughts and magic of romance.

Mart R. del Rosario is president of a public relations firm.

The INQUIRER is a member of the
PHILIPPINE PRESS INSTITUTE
The National Association of Philippine Newspapers

LETTERS

Havoc caused by Estrada's EO 102

EXECUTIVE Order 102 is displacing hundreds of health workers. It has caused so much anxiety that four Department of Health employees died in the past year. In these times of crisis, it has displaced 1,700 of the 2,950 employees of the DOH central office. Newly appointed Health Secretary Manolet Dayrit should stop EO 102.

EO 102 redirects the functions and operations of the DOH. It was signed by ousted President Estrada in May 1999.

The ongoing streamlining through EO 102 is deceptive. Health workers are made to believe that there is work waiting for them once transferred in the regional or provincial, or other health offices. But in reality, looming in the dark is massive unemployment of hundreds of tenured health workers. Once transferred, they will eventually find themselves jobless when reorganization catches up with them again. EO 102 likewise affects centers for health development, special hospitals and regional hospitals and medical centers, the Bureau of Food and Drug and the National Quarantine Office, and other attached agencies of the DOH.

EO 102 is biased against the rank and file which it is set to lay off while recruiting managers and executives. The DOH is set to transform its functions from being the sole provider to being mere regulator and monitor of health services. In doing so, it privatizes the health care delivery system in the country. It fully opens the provision of health services to big business and transforms service into a commodity that has to make profit for big business.

For the sake of the people's health and well-being, we urge Health Secretary Dayrit to stop EO 102 and the continuing privatization of the whole heath care system.—**REYNALDO LESACA JR., M.D., Health Alliance for Democracy**

Romulo never in Urban Bank or affiliates

THIS is in reaction to the column of Neal Cruz regarding the campaign to get Rafael Buenaventura to resign from his position as governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas

I would like to correct the statement in the second to the last paragraph of his column stating that Finance Secretary Alberto G. Romulo was the "head of Urbancorp Investments Inc., whose 'garbage' receivables bought by Urban Bank brought the bank down." "

In fairness to the secretary, permit me to state that Romulo was not the head of Urbancorp Investments Inc. at the time that Urban Bank bought the so-called "garbage receivables" from the said investment house. He was neither in the management nor in the board of directors of Urbancorp Investments Inc. or of Urban Bank at the time that the questionable transaction took place.

I trust the error is not deliberate and much less a subtle attempt to provoke a media quarrel between the governor and the finance secretary who has time and again expressed his support for the independence and fixed term of the Bangko Sentral governor.—**REYNALDO G. GERONIMO, 30th Floor, Citibank Tower, Citibank Plaza, Paseo de Roxas, Makati City**

Apology for Pasig marathon snafu

IN BEHALF of the lead sponsor, the Clean & Green Foundation Inc., the Piso Para sa Pasig organizers express their sincerest apologies to the athletes, other sponsors, members of the media, supporters and friends who participated in the first annual Pasig River Heritage Marathon last Feb. 25. We accept unconditional responsibility for the unintentional confusion that deprived athletes of a well-executed marathon worthy of its lofty objectives.

We are sorry that our pace car got lost twice that led two lead packs into taking wrong turns; we apologize for the inefficiency of the race marshals; and we ask forgiveness for the lack of an appropriate number of water stations along the route. We can only offer our inexperience in holding such a complicated sports event as the reason for the snafu. We were harshly taught lessons on that day, but they were lessons nonetheless.

Please be assured, however, that it was never our intention to mishandle the event. We aimed to institutionalize an annual 42-kilometer competitive run—an event not being held much in the local sporting scene—to provide a venue for serious running enthusiasts and to be creative in getting people's attention to the sad plight of the Pasig River and the continuing need to rehabilitate it. Yes, we even want the Pasig River Heritage Marathon to be the local version, and possibly an Asian rival, of the London, Boston and New York marathons. Well-meaning friends even warned us that the project is too ambitious and that the streets near the Pasig River banks are too narrow, too confusing and even too dirty for such an event. But that was our point. We want a better Pasig River and its immediate environs. And so we persisted.

And we will persist still. We promise to hold an annual Pasig River Heritage Marathon every last Sunday of February. We vow to incorporate all the harsh lessons we learned this year and do an infinitely better job next year. We pray that our friends from the business sector, the local government units, the environmental and civil societies, the media and the athletes themselves will join us again next year.—**IMELDA P. SARMIENTO, executive director, Clean and Green Foundation Inc., 2/F FEBTC Bldg. 3, Muralla Street, Intramuros, Manila**

Top tourist attraction in Subic this summer

MUCH has been discussed, alleged and refuted regarding the controversial dolphin shows at the Subic Bay Marine Exploratorium (SBME).

The main opposers, the animal activists and NGOs, expound on the project's negative impacts, mainly on the aquatic mammals that are currently on the endangered species list. They say that these animals are exploited by organizations such as the SBME for enterprising purposes.

On the other side, the SBME and other concerned groups declare these shows will raise public consciousness on threatened marine animals through the concept of "edutainment." Set to open this summer, the attractions include shows with trained dolphins, seals and killer whales, and educational tours, including a "swim with the dolphins" program.

Dolphin shows are well appreciated, notably in Sea World in San Diego, and a similar production in Florida. This endeavor, to say the least, is most welcome in developing domestic tourism. On the other, hand, it is also a healthy development if animal activists can redirect the efforts of the SBME to reach a goal for the common good.

We feel it is time to proceed with this project and give this the full support of our community. This project will help form that "critical mass" greatly needed to develop Subic as a prime tourist destination. The project will also be given the chance to develop the way they have in other countries, which we assume have benefited them well.—**GEORGE U. LORENZANA, chair and founder, Subic Bay Resorts Association, 78-A National Highway, Barrio Barretto, Olongapo City**

Relief of 3 MSU heads sought

THE FACULTY, staff and students of the Mindanao State University in General Santos City, assail its president, Camar A. Umpa, for its inept leadership of the university system.

The protest stems from the recent reelection of two questionable heads of the system's units—the MSU in General Santos City (MSU-GSC) and the Tawi-tawi College of Technology and Oceanography (MSU-TCTO).

In the case of the MSU-TCTO, the incumbent's reelection is considered questionable due to the Ombudsman's decision on Sept. 5, 2000, finding Chancellor Eddie M. Alih guilty of grave misconduct with a penalty of dismissal from service, forfeiture of retirement benefits and a bar on his reentry to government service. The Ombudsman's latest order on Feb. 13, 2001 gave Umpa 10 days to implement the decision. Yet the Board of Regents in its meeting on the same day ignored the Ombudsman's ruling on Alih and reelected him for another term instead.

In the case of the MSU-General Santos, the position papers of the College Faculty Association, the Supreme Student Council and the Administrative Staff and Support Services cited a number of administrative irregularities committed by Chancellor Macapado A. Muslim which included a number of active court cases. Among these were the violation of the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act, illegal dismissal, grave misconduct and oppression, suppression of the freedom of expression by his suspension of a student publication, contractualization of faculty members, harassment, cronyism and other acts contrary to good governance. Despite all these, the Board of Regents reelected Muslim.

The petitioners are asking President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to remove Umpa as president of the MSU System; the reconstitution of the members of the MSU Board of Regents which has three overstaying members, and the nullification of the reelection of Muslim and Alih. Just like Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, we believe that appointees to government service should clear themselves of cases first before handling sensitive government positions, especially in the academe.—**MINDANAO STATE UNIVERSITY-GENERAL SANTOS CITY College Faculty Association, Supreme Student Council, Administrative Staff and Support Services**

Need to redefine 'trapo'

CONRADO de Quiros' column on "*trapos*" last Feb. 27 is very incisive. Truly, there's a need to rework the definition of *trapo*. I agree with De Quiros that the concept being propounded by the Anti-Trapo Movement (ATM) leaves much to be desired and is unfair to people like Sen. Franklin Drilon who surely does not deserve the label *trapo*.

Consider some prominent people who would fit the ATM's label. Nora Aunor is the gubernatorial candidate of Raul Roco's Aksyon Demokratiko in Camarines Sur. We all know Roco is the political nemesis of Camarines Gov. Luis Villafuerte. By fielding Nora simply because she is popular, doesn't Roco personify the typical *trapo*? In Makati, the political career of Teddy Boy Locsin, like that of his bosom friend Joker Arroyo, is being sponsored by Mayor Jojo Binay. By agreeing to Binay's patronage politics, would Arroyo and Locsin not fit the description of *trapo*?

Let's be very clear first on the definition of *trapo* before we indiscriminately attach the label on anyone.—**BETSY BRAVO, Classic Homes, BF Resort, Pamplona, Las Piñas City**

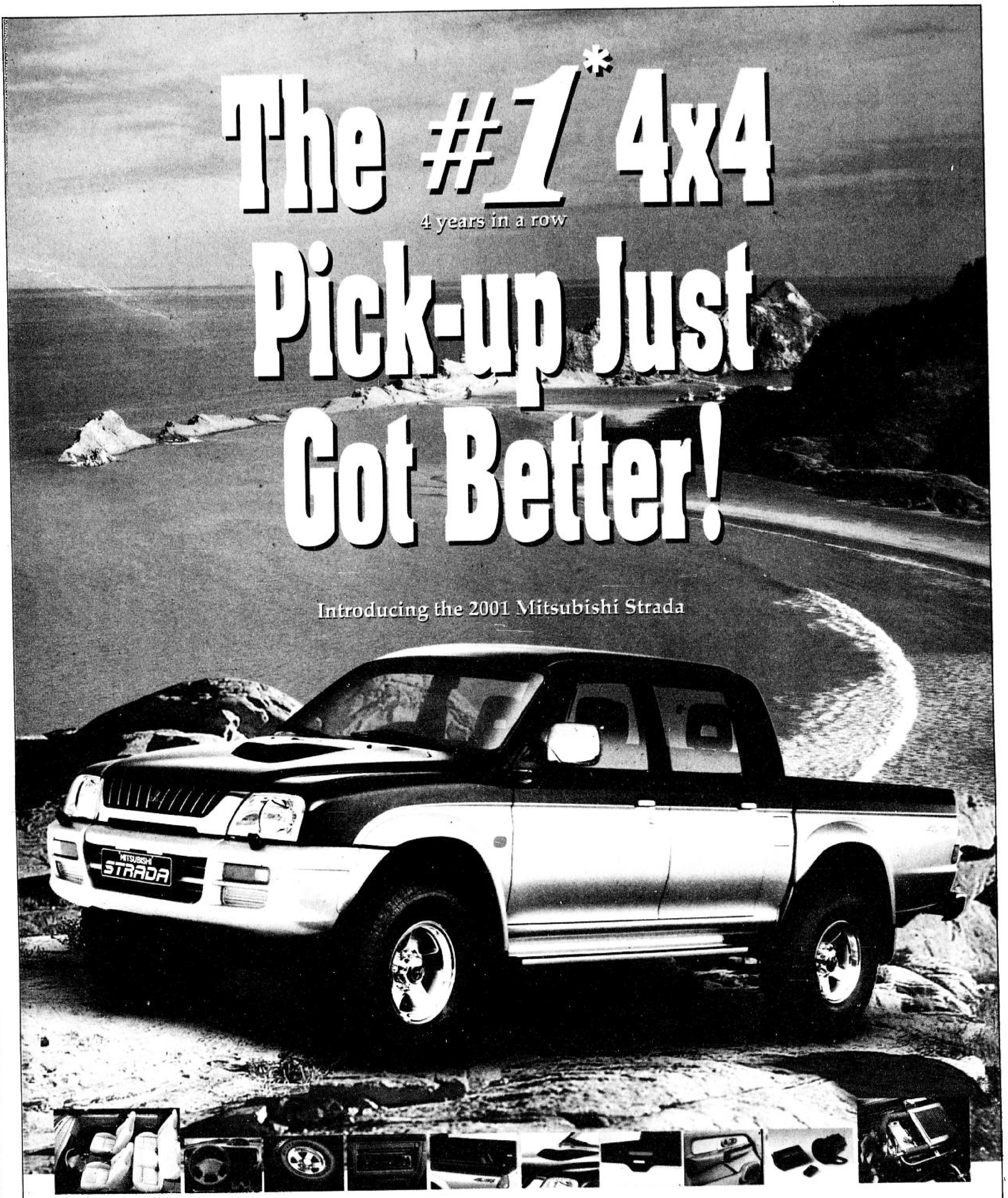
IF you have any complaints, grievances or suggestions about the treatment of news and photos by the Inquirer, you may write to the Readers' Advocate, Philippine Daily Inquirer, Chino Roces Avenue, corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, City of Makati or send a fax to Nos. 897-4793, 897-4794, or e-mail readersadvocate@inquirer.com.ph

Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number or e-mail address for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

"One Network. One Powerful Voice For Luzon."

Listen to Luzon. People are talking, expressing themselves, reaching out - through DIGITEL. On the Internet, they can now e-mail with Internet-ready phones. Across the nation, they can reach out with National Direct Dialing (NDD) at rates that are the lowest in the country. Around the globe, they can connect through International Direct Dialing (IDD). • Now, those closest to their hearts remain within reach, even if they are far away. Friends & family they miss the most are brought closer to home. And business ties they need and value are built and strengthened. Through DIGITEL, the people of Luzon now have a voice - giving them the power to express themselves, the power to better their lives.

DIGITEL
in association with TELIA AB of Sweden
Digital Telecommunications Phils., Inc.
Head Office: 110 E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave., Bagumbayan, 1110, Q.C.
Tel. No. (02) 2408447, Fax No. (02) 3950002 www.digitel.ph
Giving Voice To Luzon.
A JG Summit Company



We've made the 2001 Mitsubishi L200 Strada sportier with aggressive 15-inch Magwheels, Leather-wrapped Steering Wheel and Special Exterior Graphics, in addition to its class leading features:

Genuine Leather Seats • Mitsubishi Motors Audio Design • In-Dash CD-Player w/ 6 Speakers • 2-Tone Paint Finish • Hood Scoop • Drop-in Polypropylene Bedliner • Headlamp Washer • Tailgate Mounted 3rd Brake Lamp • Mitsubishi Motors Auto Security System • Turbo-Intercooled 2.5 liter 4D56 Diesel Engine.

No wonder its been the No.1 4x4 Pick-up in the Philippines for 4 consecutive years.

MITSUBISHI
STRADA
Fun Functionality in a 4x4

See your nearest Mitsubishi Dealer now!

*As per CAMPI/TMA figures of 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000.

Ask us about:
Auto credit plans
Service Plus Card

WE'RE EVERYWHERE TO SERVE YOU:

METRO MANILA: CITIMOTORS - Makati - Tels. 892-0331 to 42 **CITIMOTORS** - Las Piñas - Tels. 875-1745, 873-8503, 875-1766, 875-1704 **DIAMOND MOTOR** - Greenhills - Tels. 727-0351 to 75, 721-0336, 724-5353 **DIAMOND MOTOR** - Marcos Highway - Tels. 645-4801 to 05 , 681-4101, 681-4133 **DIAMOND MOTOR** - Quezon Avenue - Tels. 372-3901 to 15, 414-9440 to 42, 414-9433 to 37 **DIAMOND MOTOR** - Fairview - Tels. 935-3731 to 32, 418-3042 **UNION MOTOR** - Abad Santos - Tels. 251-7021 to 36, 253-1372 to 74 **UNION MOTOR** - Paco - Tels. 563-8481 to 85, 563-8461 to 67, 563-5679, 563-5686, 563-5688 **UNION MOTOR** - Kalookan - Tels. 364-20-61 to 69, 364-0147, 364-0149, 364-0422, 364-9762 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS BALINTAWAK**- Tels. 330-8901, 330-8903 **LUZON: CARWORLD** - Pampanga - Tels. (045) 961-2601 to 03, 961-3466, 961-5609, 961-3040, 961-5620 **CARWORLD** - Tarlac - Tels. (045) 982-5551 to 53, (045) 982-4640 **CARWORLD**- Marilao- Tel Nos. (044) 711-2895 to 2897, 711-2469 **CARWORLD** - Malolos - Tels. (044) 791-6320, (044) 791-2405 to 08, Cel. No. (0918) 231-7819 **CARWORLD**- Olongapo- Tel Nos. (047) 224-4307 **FREEWAY MOTOR** - Baliuag - (044) 766-4235 to 36 **FREEWAY MOTOR** - Isabela - Tel. 682-8401 **FREEWAY MOTOR** - Cabanatuan - Tels. (044) 463-1391, 463-5105 **MOTORPLAZA** - Calasiao - Tels. (075) 522-2382, 522-6723, 517-3060 **MOTORPLAZA** - Urdaneta - Tel. (075) 568-2502, 568-3312 **MOTORPLAZA** - Bauang, La Union - Tel. (072) 242-0610; 705-5050 **MOTORPLAZA** - Baguio City - (074) 300-3571, 443-9780 **SFM SALES** - Lipa City - Tels. (043) 756-5522 to 25, 756-5194,756-1018 **SFM SALES** - San Pablo City - Tels. (049) 562-0690, 562-0691 **VISAYAS: AVESCOR MOTORS** - Bacolod - Tels. (034) 435-2111 to 14, 433-0551 **AVESCOR MOTORS** - Iloilo City - Tels. (033) 337-8488, 335-0748 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS CEBU** - Tels. (032) 345-1233, 420-5777 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS DUMAGUETE** - Tel. (035) 225-1428 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS TACLOBAN** - Tel. (053) 323-3724, **MITSUBISHI MOTORS TAGBILARAN** - Tel. (038) 411-5815 **MINDANAO: MITSUBISHI MOTORS BUTUAN** - Tel. (085) 815-3089 **MITSUBISHI MOTORS CAGAYAN DE ORO** - Tel. (088) 855-1546 / (08822) 732-508 **KARASIA** - Davao/North - Tels. (082) 222-1111 to 16 **KARASIA** - Davao/South - Tels. (082) 298-0175 to 77, 298-1490 to 94 **KARASIA** - Tagum - Tel. (084) 217-3582, 400-1037 **MINDANAO INTEGRATED**-Gen. Santos - Tels. (083) 552-4022, 552-4781, 552-7661, 552-7662 **ZAMBOANGA MOTORS** - Zamboanga City - Tels. (062) 993-0786, 991-2250, 991-2136

PER DTI-NCR Permit No. 0304 Series of 2001

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

The WORLD

MARGOT J. BATERINA, Editor

35 killed in stampede during hajj stoning rite

MINA, Saudi Arabia—Thirty-five Muslim pilgrims were crushed to death in a stampede during the "Stoning of Satan" ritual on Monday near the holy city of Mecca, the third such tragedy in less than a decade, Saudi officials said.

The stampede that marred the start of the Muslim feast of Al-Adha (sacrifice) which coincides with the three-day stoning ritual also left an unspecified number of pilgrims slightly injured, the Saudi civil defense force said.

It said 23 women and 12 men of different nationalities died as a huge crowd rushed toward one of the three giant pillars representing the devil in the Mina valley near the birthplace of the Prophet Mohammad in Mecca.

Pilgrims have to approach the pillars so as to hit the mark with their stones, as laid down by Islam.

"Because of heavy congestion and jostling between pilgrims, many pilgrims, especially the elderly, tripped and fell, leading to the deaths of 35 pilgrims of different nationalities," the civil defense said.

"Some of them suffocated to death while others were trampled," before security forces restored order, it said, adding that the latest tragedy to hit the annual "hajj" pilgrimage occurred at around 8 a.m.

AN ELDERLY woman receives medical attention in Mina near Mecca, Saudi Arabia, four hours after about 35 pilgrims were killed in a stampede, March 5. Nearly two million pilgrims went to Mina in the morning to cast pebbles at stone pillars representing Satan.

REUTERS

It was the first such deadly incident at the hajj since April 1998, when at least 118 pilgrims died and more than 180 were injured in a stampede during the same Mina ritual.

In May 1994, 270 pilgrims were killed as crowds surged forward during the Stoning of Satan. Authorities blamed the record number of pilgrims.

After the 1998 disaster, Saudi religious authorities extended the stone-throwing to cover the entire day rather than the previous custom of completing the ritual before midday prayers at Mecca's Grand Mosque.

Muslims from 160 countries, to cries of "Allah Akhbar" (God is Great), hurled stones at the pillars on Monday, as Saudi authorities announced a revised figure of 1.8 million pilgrims for this year's hajj.

King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah, in a message carried by the official Saudi news agency SPA before news of the tragedy emerged, congratulated the pilgrims and wished travelers from abroad a safe return to their countries.

As part of measures to avoid a crush, elderly pilgrims had a head start Sunday night on the stoning ritual. On Monday, each group of 200,000 was allowed one hour to pass through the area. *AFP*

Dayaks justify massacre of 450 Madurese settlers

KUALAKUAYAN, Indonesia—Deep in the heartland of Borneo Island, a civil servant named Manarung explains why his tribe is perfectly justified in massacring hundreds of people and driving out tens of thousands of others.

"They did not respect our culture. The Madurese are all thieves and murderers," he said, sitting in his wooden hut on the banks of the Mentaya River, which snakes through dense rain forest.

His fellow Dayak tribespeople went on a rampage last month, killing more than 450 settlers from the island of Madura, beheading or ripping the hearts out of many.

Manarung—who represents the government in the village of Kualakuayan and who, like many Indonesians, uses only one name—said he personally didn't kill anyone. But it was Dayaks from his small village who are alleged to have massacred 118 settlers on a soccer field in the neighboring village of Parenggean on Feb. 25 in the worst incident in two weeks of bloodshed that began in mid-February.

Thrust into modernity after centuries of isolation, many Dayaks feel disenfranchised in their own land. Traditional bonds to the rain forest have been largely severed by government and business interests eager to exploit the vast resource-rich region.

Dayaks have moved out of the forest and into cities and towns and languish at the bottom of the economic ladder. As the economy has nosedived in recent years, they have found someone to blame: the Madurese. *AP*

Pressure on Japan PM to quit mounts

TOKYO—Pressure on unpopular Japanese Prime Minister Yoshiro Mori to resign yesterday intensified when a Cabinet minister from his own ruling party urged him to make the right decision at the right time.

"I believe (Mori) will set a good example by making an appropriate decision at an appropriate time," Justice Minister Masahiko Komura said one day after Mori survived an opposition-sponsored no-confidence vote in parliament.

However, Japan's most unpopular prime minister in years vowed to battle on to pass next year's budget and restore the fragile economy to growth.

"I want to enact next year's budget (for the year from April 1) as soon as possible and play a major role in restoring the economy to growth," he told an Upper House budget panel.

Mori's coalition partners including the number two ruling party, the New Komeito, have made clear the vote did not imply they had given him their stamp of approval.

In what could be a sign of wavering support by a key party in the ruling three-way coalition, Labor Minister Chikara Sakaguchi said his Buddhist-backed New Komeito Party would open up discussions on its future role if Mori were replaced as chief of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

"If a new (LDP) president is born, we as a party would discuss anew with that president whether to form a coalition," Jiji news agency quoted Sakaguchi as telling a news conference. *AP*

WORLDBRIEFS

'Sub was in hurry to go up'

HONOLULU—The crew of the USS Greeneville was rushing through an emergency surfacing maneuver when it struck the Japanese fishing vessel Ehime Maru because lunch for a group of VIPs on board had taken too long, the first witness told a US Navy court of inquiry on Monday. Charles Griffiths Jr., the Navy admiral in charge of the first initial investigation after the crash, said it appeared that the captain of the Greeneville, Scott Waddle, was behind schedule and hurried through a sonar search so he would not get his VIP guests home late that day. Griffiths said main purpose of the trip that day was a civilian tour. He added that a key piece of equipment on the sub was broken and that the ship's sonar was being operated by a trainee. *Reuters*

70 killed in bridge collapse

ENTRE-OS-RIOS, Portugal—At least 70 people were feared dead Monday after a 115-year-old bridge collapsed, sending a bus and two cars plunging into a swollen river in northern Portugal, officials said. Infrastructure Minister Jorge Coelho resigned Monday, taking responsibility for the collapse of the bridge that linked the towns of Castelo de Paiva and Entre-os-Rios over the river Douro. But a political row gained steam Monday as local residents and the mayor of Castelo de Paiva said they had repeatedly warned authorities about the poor state of the bridge. Monday's rescue operations were hampered by the poor weather conditions and the fast-flowing, swollen river. *AFP*

Malay opposition activist nabbed

KUALA LUMPUR—The wife of Anwar Ibrahim, the jailed rival of Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad, yesterday protested against the arrest of a leading opposition activist who is accused of planning demonstrations to topple the government. Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, who formed opposition Parti Keadilan Nasional after her husband was arrested in 1998, said activist Ezam Mohd Noor expected to be charged under the Sedition Act on Wednesday. Ezam is the leader of the youth wing of the party and was arrested on Monday outside Wan Azizah's house. "We uphold the right to peacefully assemble," Wan Azizah said, adding police tactics at recent gatherings had caused "things to go helter skelter." *Reuters*

South Africa in AIDS drug case

PRETORIA—In a landmark case here, 39 drug companies on Monday took the South African government to court to fight a law that will make medicine cheaper but will threaten their patent rights. The legal battle over whether South Africa can import cut-price versions of generic treatments rather than the more expensive brand drugs may have repercussions for millions of people in poor countries. Some 4,000 people demonstrated outside the packed courtroom to back the government, shouting their message on posters reading: "To hell with patent rights when it comes to our lives." South Africa has the fastest rate of HIV infection in the world and about 10 percent of the adult population, about 4.2 million people, are HIV positive according to UNAIDS figures. *AFP*

Rwandans vote in landmark polls

KIGALI—Rwandans began voting yesterday in local elections in the first secret ballot polls since an estimated 800,000 people were massacred during the tiny central African country's 1994 genocide. Political parties have been banned from fielding candidates for fear of rekindling the ethnic hatred that prompted the genocide, the worst since the Holocaust during the World War Two. Instead, over 8,000 candidates, some of them named less than 24 hours before the polls in order to avoid "election fever," will vie on independent platforms for positions in commune councils across the country. *Reuters*

"Now my potent vitamin C is also SUGAR-FREE"

Now you have two POTEN-CEE tablets to choose from!

For people with diabetes, heart ailment, or those who simply can't have sugar in their diet, here's good news!
You can now get "POTEN-CEE Sugar-Free" tablet!
It's all the Vitamin C you need everyday without the sugar.

ASCORBIC ACID
POTEN-CEE
New!
SUGAR-FREE
VITAMIN-C
TABLET
ASCORBIC ACID
POTEN-CEE

SUGAR-FREE CANDY-COATED

ASCORBIC ACID
POTEN-CEE®
Stay healthy. Take Poten-Cee daily.
Pascual
Pascual Laboratories, Inc.
CONSUMER HEALTHCARE
For inquiries call the Pascual Consumer Healthcare Hotline,9269451

2 killed, 13 hurt as student fires at school

STUDENTS console each other in a shopping plaza across the street from their school after a 15-year-old male student opened fire in a hallway after loading his gun in the boys' restroom at Santana High School in Santee, California, March 5. Santee is a suburb of San Diego. REUTERS

SANTEE, California—A 15-year-old boy who had been picked on and had talked about shooting classmates allegedly opened fire at his high school, killing two people and wounding 13 in the deadliest US school attack since Columbine.

One student said the boy, a freshman, had a smile on his face as he fired away with a pistol at Santana High School in this middle-class San Diego suburb.

The student surrendered in the bathroom, dropped his gun and said he acted alone, telling officers: "It's just me," according to sheriff's officials.

The boy will be charged as an adult with murder, assault with a deadly weapon and gun possession, said San Diego County District Attorney Paul Pfingst, who identified the suspect as Charles Andrew Williams: Students said they knew him as Andy Williams. He was to be arraigned on Wednesday.

"We have established no real motive," Sheriff's Lt. Jerry Lewis said during a news conference Monday night. "He did not have any particular targets in mind."

Sheriff's and FBI officials served a search warrant Monday night on the apartment where the teener lived with his father. They removed seven rifles, a computer, a plastic crate filled with papers and files, and about a half dozen bags filled with evidence. It wasn't immediately known who owned the guns. Officials with both agencies said they couldn't comment on the search.

The slain students were identified as Bryan Zuckor, 14, and Randy Gordon, 15. Authorities said one of the injured victims was a campus supervisor, while a student suffered minor injuries in a car accident while fleeing the 1,900-student school.

Fellow students and an adult acquaintance said they had heard the boy's threats over the weekend but thought he was joking and did not report him to authorities.

"He was picked on all the time," student Jessica Moore said. "He was picked on because he was one of the scrawniest guys. People called him freak, dork, nerd, stuff like that."

Student John Schardt, 17, was in a nearby classroom when the shooting started about 9:20 a.m. in a boys' restroom and spilled into a quad.

"I looked at the kid, and he was smiling and shooting his weapon," Schardt said. "It was total chaos. People were trying to take cover."

Schardt said he took photos of victims and another student videotaped the gunman's arrest, but authorities confiscated the film and the tape.

Andrew Kaforey, a 17-year-old senior, said he ran into the bathroom with a security guard after hearing what sounded like a firecracker or a gunshot. "He pointed the gun right at me but he didn't shoot," Kaforey said.

As he and the guard ran out, the gunman shot the guard in the back, Kaforey said.

Investigators said the boy used a .22-ca. revolver, stopping once to reload, and retreated after the shooting into the bathroom.

On Monday night, about 1,000 people gathered at Sonrise Community Church in Santee for a memorial service. The names of the two students killed and those who were wounded by the gunfire flashed on a video screen above an altar.

The attack was the deadliest US school shooting since the April 1999 bloodbath at Columbine High near Littleton, Colorado, where two teenagers killed 12 fellow students and a teacher before committing suicide. *AP*

Cheney has angioplasty to reopen shut artery

WASHINGTON—Vice President Dick Cheney underwent surgery to reopen a partially blocked artery after checking into a hospital with chest pains. It was the same artery that had been cleared last November after his fourth heart attack.

There was no evidence that Cheney had suffered another heart attack, said his cardiologist, Dr. Jonathan Reiner. The doctor also said he did not believe Cheney had suffered more heart damage, though the vice president was spending the night at the hospital for observation.

Cheney, 60, had quickly resumed a full schedule after a heart attack and follow up surgery last November.

"There is a very high likelihood he can finish out his term in his fully vigorous capacity," the doctor said after Monday's procedure—an angioplasty. But he added, "He has chronic heart and artery disease."

Reiner said there was a 40 percent risk the artery would narrow again. He said Cheney could be released from the hospital as early as Tuesday and be back to work this week.

President George W. Bush, playing down his top adviser's latest health scare, called the surgery "a precautionary measure." Bush spoke by telephone to Cheney, who reported from the hospital that he was feeling fine and looking forward to returning to work, the White House said.

Cheney is an unusually active and influential vice president. He headed Bush's transition team, played a major role in Cabinet and top personnel selections and has helped Bush forge foreign policy, as well as a national energy policy. White House officials say Cheney is the adviser Bush most relies upon to make sure his agenda is carried out. *AP*

Taliban chief lauds 'demise' of statutes

KABUL—Calling the international outcry to his week-old edict ordering the demolition of pre-Islamic relics "noise," the Taliban's reclusive leader Monday called their demise a tribute to Islam and to "the brave Afghan nation."

Mullah Mohammed Omar accused non-Muslim nations of trying to refashion Afghanistan's Islamic identity into one more acceptable to them.

"The non-Muslim world is united against the Taliban, but we will not be deterred. We will keep our Islamic way," Omar said in a statement carried by the Taliban's Bakhtar news agency. "It has given praise to God that we have destroyed them."

He did not address the disapproval expressed by fellow Muslim nations, including the Taliban's closest ally Pakistan, which also pleaded for the preservation of the statues.

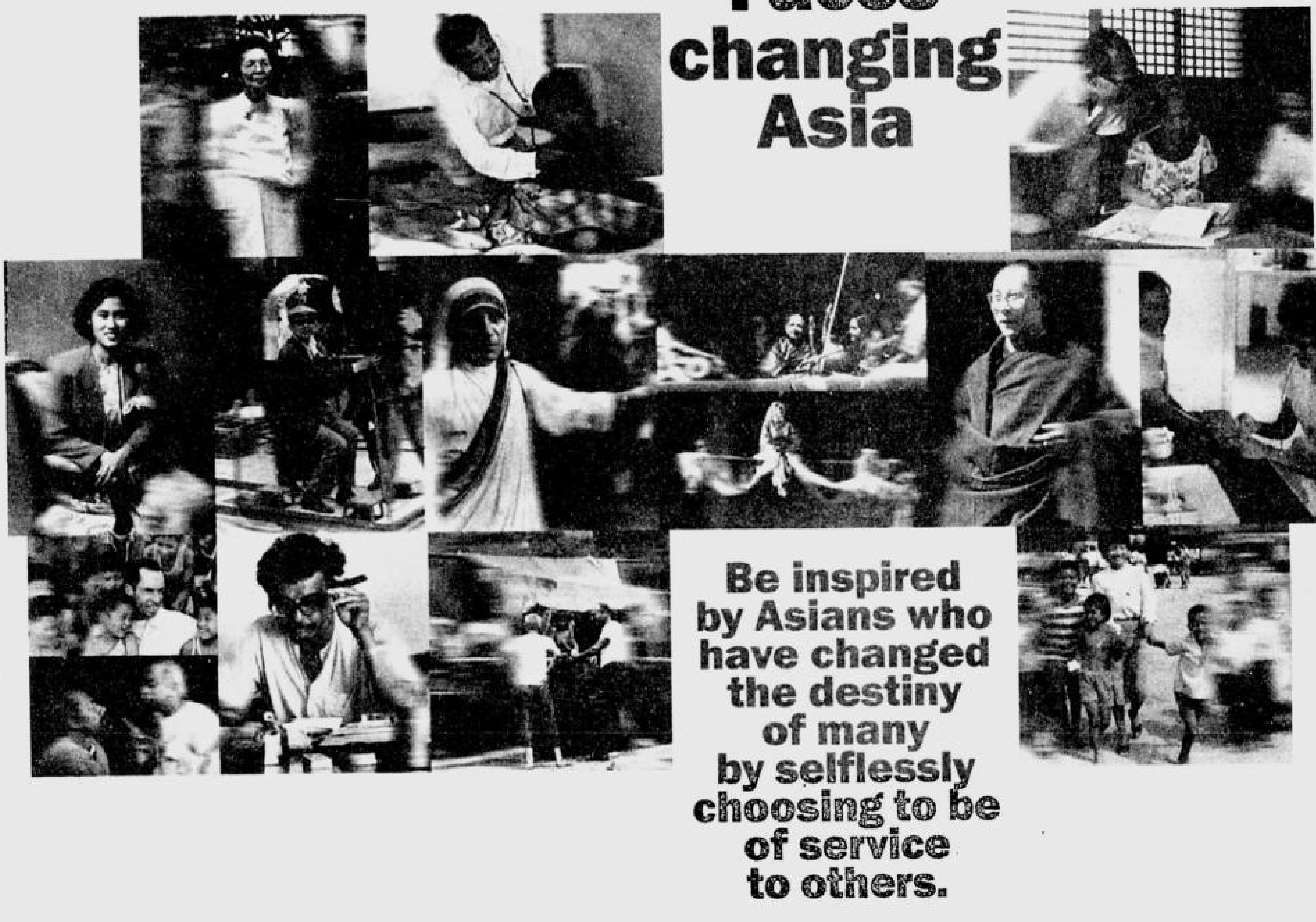
At the heart of the outcry has been the fate of two mammoth mountain carvings of Buddha, measuring 52.5 and 36 meters tall, hewn from a cliff face in the third and fifth century. The taller of the two statues is believed to be the world's tallest standing Buddha.

But smaller relics—some just fragments, others fully formed statues—are equally precious. In the war-ruined Kabul Museum there are thousands of fragments of Buddhist Art, catalogued and stored in a basement.

The most precious is a 2,000 year-old seated Bhodi Sattva, made of baked clay and naked, but for an earring, armband and necklace, said Carla Grissman, who spent several years in Afghanistan documenting and compiling an inventory of the museum collection.

"We are praying that the Bhodi Sattva in not one of the things that has been destroyed," she said in a telephone interview from Britain, where she now lives.

"It is one of the most beautiful, ethereal Buddha statues," she said. "It was in superb condition." *AP*



THE 2ND
RAMON MAGSAYSAY
STUDENT
ESSAY
COMPETITION

Join the
2nd RAMON
MAGSAYSAY
Student Essay
Competition.

THEME "The Ramon Magsaysay Awardee whose story inspires me the most"

1. There are two levels of competition: Collegiate and High School. Competition is open to all bonafide students in these levels and who are Filipino citizens.
2. The essay must be written in English, typewritten or computer-printed, double-spaced on 8.5"x11" bond paper with one-inch margins on all sides. If computer generated, 12 points/Times New Roman or Book Antiqua font should be used.
3. All essays must be at least two (2) pages but no more than four (4), thus 500-1,000 words in length. Submit five copies of the essay in one manila (brown) envelope. Photocopies will be accepted. Only one entry per contestant is allowed. All entries must have a fully accomplished entry form which is available at your school, the internet, or from the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation.
4. Only original and unpublished work may be entered. Essays which have won in previous contests may not be entered. All entries shall become and remain the property of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation.
5. First and second degree relatives of employees of the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation are disqualified from joining.
6. Deadline for the submission of entries is JULY 31, 2001.
7. For each of the competition categories (high school and collegiate), entries will be classified according to regional clusters (Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao, Metro Manila.) From each of these regional clusters, three (3) essays will be selected by a Regional Board of Judges as the regional finalists. All regional finalists will automatically compete for the national grand prize. The National Board of Judges shall determine the national prize winner and regional prize winners.
8. Competition prizes consist of Php100,000 for each of the national grand prize winners and a personal computer system for each of the regional prize winners and his/her respective school. The winners will be announced at the awarding ceremonies to be held August, during the Magsaysay Festival Month. Awarding ceremonies will be held at the Ramon Magsaysay Center, Roxas Boulevard, Manila.

The Prizes

Php**100,000.00**
for each grand prize winner

One **COMPAQ**
personal computer for each regional winner and for each of their respective schools

Research materials on the Ramon Magsaysay Awards and awardees are available at The Asian Library Ramon Magsaysay Center Roxas Boulevard, Manila

The RMAF Website at http//www.rmaf.org.ph

Or check your local school library.

For inquiries, contact Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation
Telephones **521-3166 to 85**
893-5642 and 893-5690
Toll-free number **1-800-1-888-2390**
Fax **521-8105 & 892-6769**
e-mail **essay@rmaf.org.ph**
and eon@i-next.net

Entries may be sent to:

NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation
Ramon Magsaysay Center
1680 Roxas Boulevard, Malate, Manila
P.O. Box 3350

NCR
Professor Erlita P. Mendoza
Creative Writing Center
Faculty of Arts & Letters
University of Sto. Tomas, España, Manila
Telephone: 731-3103 ext. 8281
Email: erlipm@angelfire.com

LUZON
Mrs. Elvira S. Balinas
Chairperson, Department of English
College of Arts & Science
Angeles University Foundation
Angeles City, Pampanga
Telephone: 045-888-2663 ext. 712
Email: levbalinas@hotmail.com

VISAYAS
Dr. Leonicio P. Derlada
214 San Jose Street, Molo, Iloilo City 500
Telephone: 033-3380168

MINDANAO
Mr. Rene Gerardo Lizada
Ateneo de Davao High School
MacArthur Highway, Matina, Davao City
Email: miraga@gatesway.com

RAMON
MAGSAYSAY
AWARD
FOUNDATION

Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

ROUNDUP

300 multiple registrants

MISAMIS ORIENTAL—Provincial Election Supervisor Carlito Ravelo said his office has recorded some 300 multiple registrants. But Ravelo said most of those who registered as voters more than once claimed that they did so only because they moved to another residence. He said they will closely monitor if the persons will vote more than once in the coming elections. There are 588,822 registered voters in the province.
Ellen Red, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Teacher ordered dismissed

DUMAGUETE CITY—Ombudsman Aniano Desierto has ordered the dismissal of a public school teacher in Bindoy town who falsely certified that he passed the government examination for teachers. Ferdinand Notarte, who resigned prior to the release of the decision, was also barred for life from reemployment in government service. Desierto also suspended for a month then provincial superintendent Metodio Gapasin for railroading Notarte's appointment despite his lack of clear qualifications.
Alex Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau

Digos gun ban

DIGOS CITY—The implementation of the Comelec gun ban went on full swing here starting March 1. Supt. Guillermo Lara, provincial police director, told radio station dxML that orders to chiefs of police were already given, instructing them to implement the ban on carrying of firearms, except by policemen. Members of the armed forces may carry their issued firearms when they are on duty or on a mission, but they should carry documents including mission orders. He added that checkpoints would be set up in strategic parts of the province. *Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Police deployed to hot spots

DIGOS CITY—The North Cotabato police is deploying policemen to several towns tagged as probable election hot spots. Senior Supt. Alex Paul Monteagudo told radio station dxND that the deployment of police personnel would complement the strength of the military in areas wracked by election violence in the past and those where the MILF or other rebel groups are operating.
Allan Nawal, PDI Mindanao Bureau

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Eastern and Southern Luzon and Mindanao including Palawan will experience skies with scattered rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers or thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

⛅ Metro Manila HI 32° Lo 22°	⛅ Baguio HI 25° Lo 15°	⛅ Tuguegarao HI 28° Lo 22°
⛅ Laoag HI 34° Lo 22°	⛅ Clark Zone HI 32° Lo 22°	⛅ Tagaytay HI 31° Lo 20°
☁ Legazpi HI 32° Lo 24°	⛅ Bacolod HI 32° Lo 24°	⛅ Roxas HI 30° Lo 26°
⛅ Cebu HI 31° Lo 25°	⛅ Tacloban HI 31° Lo 25°	☁ Gen. Santos HI 33° Lo 23°
☁ Zamboanga HI 34° Lo 25°	☁ Cagayan de Oro HI 32° Lo 22°	☁ Davao HI 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research

PDI BUREAUS

Northern Luzon Bureau
Room 201, Bonuan Apartelle
10 Happy Glen Loop, Baguio City
Tel. No. (074) 443-9255
Fax No. (074) 443-8971
E-mail: inq_baguio@inquirer.com .ph

Southern Luzon Bureau
Barangay 34 (Oro site), Legazpi City
Tel. No . (052) 480-8099
Fax No. (052) 820-1274
E-mail: inq_bicol@inquirer.com .ph

Visayas Bureau
c/o Cebu Daily News
18-15 Escario St., Cebu City
Tel. Nos. (032) 233-0346 / 233-0349
Fax No. (032) 232-9938
E-mail: pdivis@skyinet.net

Mindanao Bureau
479-c General Luna St., Davao City
Tel. No. (082) 221-7122
Fax No. (082) 227-6723
E-mail: pdiminda@dv.webling.com

'Jueteng' men, crackpots join Pampanga poll race

By TONETTE OREJAS
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Candidates with suspected ties to jueteng operations, local media personalities and those whose accredited nicknames range from a rum brand to "Kojak" are offering themselves to Pampanga's electorate on May 14.

Two suspected jueteng operators are aspiring as city councilors in the newly created City of San Fernando.

They are Mario "Marga" Garcia and Melchor "Ngongo" Calung.

Caluag (identified as Melchor Caliuag or Calaguas in police records) is running as an independent candidate. Twice, he posted bail last year from arrest ordered by municipal courts in connection with anti-illegal gambling cases.

Last year, top police officials in Central Luzon suspected Garcia, a Lakas-NUCD member who is seeking reelection as councilor, as the jueteng operator in Angeles City and some major towns in Pampanga.

Lubao Mayor Lilia Pineda, wife of suspected jueteng financier Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda, has abandoned her gubernatorial plan and opted instead for a provincial board seat in the second district.

Mayor Pineda is president of the Pampanga Mayors' League and vice president of the League of Municipalities of the Philippines.

Mayor Pineda's son Dennis, a Lubao councilor, is running for Lubao mayor.

The mother and son are running as independent candidates.

Three journalists in Angeles City are running for councilor. They are Angelo Lopez and Rudy Simeon, commentators of local radio station dwGV, and Jay Sangil, a columnist for a local paper.

Comelec reports showed that some local candidates have picked poll nicknames that would make voters easily remember them when they fill up their ballots on May 14.

An independent candidate for councilor in Sto. Tomas town chose to use the initials E-S-Q, after a popular rum brand patronized by the masses, as his official election nickname.

Another candidate for councilor in Sto. Tomas went by the name "Mandong Dagis (Kapampangan for rat)."

One candidate for councilor in Candaba town would like voters to call him 'Kojak' after the Hollywood actor Telly Savalas' character in the late 1970s television detective series with the same title.

This candidate, it was learned, is bald like Savalas in "Kojak," one of television's longest-running detective series.

Rock band drummer Sajid Eusoof, vice mayoral candidate of Lakas-NUCD in Guagua town, has attached his band's name to his.

Eusoof, a Filipino of Iranian descent, uses the poll nickname "Sajid White Lies" in his campaign.

Louie Reyes, who styles himself as an environmentalist, wanted to be voted as "Yakap (Embrace)" in Angeles City while another candidate for councilor in Macabebe town chose the nickname "Kamatis (Tomato)."

And dig this. A council bet in Porac town wrote "Row 4" as his official nickname.

"Row 4" is a popular tag to students in public elementary schools who do not perform well in academics.

Those in "Row 4" are usually below average students while those sitting in "Row 1" are deemed the intelligent bunch of the class.

More women have also set their sights for the mayoral posts in Pampanga.

They are City of San Fernando Councilor Millet Ocampo (Liberal Party), Sasmuan Mayor Catalina Bagasina (Nationalist People's Coalition), Lina Pulusan (Isang Bansa, Isang Diwa Party) of Sta. Ana town, Masantol Mayor Corazon Lacap (Lakas), Fermina Santos (NPC) of Masantol and Normita Evangelina (Buklod) of Candaba.

In Angeles City, Councilor Susan Pineda is challenging two male candidates for the vice mayoral seat.

Comelec reports showed that in Pampanga, considered as the bailiwick of President Macapagal-Arroyo, major candidates of the NPC outnumbered the bets of the administration Lakas-NUCD.

The NPC and its alliance, the Buklod Capampangan (United Capampangan), fielded 19 candidates for the gubernatorial, vice gubernatorial, congressional and provincial board member contests.

In contrast, the ruling Lakas-NUCD drafted only 14 for the same slots.

The Partido ng Masang Pilipino, the party of disgraced President Joseph Estrada, was slugging it out only in the gubernatorial and vice gubernatorial races, putting only one candidate each for the province's two highest posts.

Four candidates are running as independent while Kampi, Ms. Macapagal's original party, and Liberal Party have two candidates each for the major positions.

Gov. Manuel Lapid, who is seeking his third and last term, is being challenged by Jose Montemayor Jr. (independent), Ananias Canlas Jr. (Buklod Capampangan) and Marcelo Manalansan (PMP).

Two movie actors are eyeing Pampanga's vice gubernatorial post.

They are Lakas-NUCD's Juan Miguel "Mikey" Arroyo, the President's eldest son, and Buklod's Roi David, more known by his screen name Roi Vinzon.

The third vice gubernatorial hopeful is Allan Villanueva of PMP.

MILF urged: Don't pin reb's murder on barangay chair

COTABATO CITY—A board member of Maguindanao has asked Moro Islamic Liberation Front chair Salamat Hashim to order an investigation of the killing of an MILF commander which his comrades reportedly blamed on a barangay chair.

Board Member Hadji Zainodin Abutazil said MILF commanders in the area should give Mustafa Tatak, barangay chair of Sapakan in Mamasapano, the benefit of due process, lest a "third force" ride on the issue and lay the blame on the MILF.

Tatak told the INQUIRER he was not involved in the Jan. 30 ambush-slay of MILF Commander Hadji Gani Abdullah, who, he said, was his "close relative."

Residents suspected an armed "third force" was involved in the repeated harassment of Barangay Sapakan, some 75 kilometers east of here.

The latest attack by armed men on the village took place on March 3, residents said.

Tatak said residents have identified members of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Bakat Group under Commander Blackie Dagandal as responsible for the twin attacks on their barangay on Feb. 12 and 25.

Barangay Sapakan is a beneficiary of the 20,000-hectare, P2.1 billion Asian Development Bank-funded Kabulnan Irrigation and Area Development Project (KIADP).

In the Feb. 25 attack, residents said armed members of the MNLF-Bakat Group had deliberately left letters blaming the attack on MILF Commander Datu Edo.

Datu Edo told the INQUIRER he was not involved in that attack and that the MILF still has no suspects in the killing of Abdullah.

He said there are no charges against Tatak "as far as the MILF is concerned."

But Datu Edo admitted that initiatives to determine and punish the real killers of Abdullah were "purely an MILF affair."

Tatak was wounded in the Feb. 12 offensive but was able to identify two of the attackers as Guindo Potao and Kuli Malang, a brother-in-law of Dagandal.

Potao, wanted for multiple murder and robbery in band, was wounded, while Malang accidentally left a baseball cap and a pouch containing his identification card as a worker of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, residents said. *Nash Maulana, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

BACKBREAKER

BEN MOSES EBREO

Behind the struggling rattan industry in the country are men and women who spend hours without rest harvesting rattan. These workers in Sta. Ana, Cagayan are just some of the people who break their backs preparing rattan to be made into furniture for those who can afford them.

7 S. Luzon political detainees to be freed

CALAMBA, Laguna—The Task Force Detainees of the Philippines (TFDP) based here has expressed satisfaction that at least seven of the 47 political prisoners in Southern Luzon will be included in the list of prisoners who have been considered for release by the Department of Justice.

Herman Rodegenario, TFDP local officer, told the INQUIRER that the seven political prisoners whose cases have been considered for dismissal include Nancy Cabug and Gregorio Alemania who were detained in November 2000 at the Quezon Provincial Jail in Lucena City.

The INQUIRER learned that Cabug is now out on bail.

The other five due for release are Emma Montoya Rait, 19, and Ronnie Pahilagot, 19, who were both minors when they were arrested in October 1999 together with three older men and who were detained at the Romblon Provincial Jail.

The three men include Virgilio Mane, 38, Walter Ortega, 30, and Rustico Mijares, 28.

These five detainees, according to Rodegenario, are all residents of Sta. Fe town who were simply caught in a crossfire.

They were preparing to join a protest march of poor farmers at the central office of the Department of Agrarian Reform in Manila in October 1999 when they chanced upon an alleged encounter between government forces and a rebel group.

They were then arrested after being accused as members of the NPA.

This alleged confrontation, said the TFDP officer, had caused the death of an NPA commander, whom he did not identify.

Ronald Leoniso, another TFDP worker, told the INQUIRER that the other political detainees were incarcerated at the Laguna Provincial Jail (two prisoners), Quezon Provincial Jail (12 inmates, including the two to be released), Oriental Mindoro Provincial Jail (2) and Occidental Mindoro Provincial Jail (2).

The rest are confined in various provincial jails in Southern Luzon.

An unidentified Laguna provincial guard told the INQUIRER over the phone that as far as he knew there was no political prisoner confined in the provincial jail.

He also said that he did not hear any news of political prisoners in Luzon being considered for release by the Department of Justice. *Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

BANE TO FARMERS

Negros cops seize smuggled rice

By CARLA GOMEZ
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—Policemen seized about 2,400 sacks of smuggled rice in two southern towns in Negros Occidental.

Law enforcers discovered on Sunday about 1,200 sacks of suspected smuggled rice stored in a warehouse in Barangay Nabulao, Sipalay town, 178 kilometers south of here.

Policemen have been guarding the rice pending investigation to determine if the cargo came into the country legally.

About 1,000 sacks of rice loaded in two cargo trucks were confiscated by a team of policemen led by SPO3 Anthony Cana on Saturday at a checkpoint in Barangay Bacuyangan, Hinobaan, 191 kilometers south of here.

Police investigators showed the imported rice was unloaded from the MV Mary Elizabeth that docked at the Salvacion Port in Hinobaan.

Cana said the drivers of the two cargo trucks failed to present documents that would prove the legality of the shipment. The shipment was reportedly consigned to a Filipino-Chinese businessman in Negros Oriental.

The Hinobaan police station had placed the MV Mary Elizabeth under its custody pending investigation by the Philippine Ports Authority.

Rice farmers have been up in arms against the shipment of imported rice to Negros Occidental by unscrupulous traders.

Negros Occidental Board Member Jesus Colmenares urged the government to stop the entry of smuggled rice into the country.

36 persons injured in Laguna explosions

SAN PABLO CITY—Thirty-six persons were injured when two grenades hurled by two escaping robbery-holdup men exploded amid a thick crowd of residents and consumers shortly before noon here yesterday.

SPO4 Jimmy Belen, one of the investigating police officers, told the INQUIRER that 30 of those wounded were brought to the San Pablo City District Hospital while two were brought to the San Pablo City Doctors' Hospital.

Four other wounded victims were confined at the San Pablo City Hospital, according to attending nurse Shirley Robas.

Initial investigation showed that the two unidentified individuals had just held up and robbed the Quick Lawn Pawnshop at the busy corner of P. Burgos and Flores Streets in this city.

The escaping robbers reportedly hurled the grenades, apparently to secure their exit and ward off pursuing policemen. *Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Yearly increase in tuition can't be stopped

By VICENTE LABRO
PDI Visayas Bureau
AND JOWEL CANUDAY
PDI Mindanao Bureau

A BIG headache is again coming the way of parents this school year—tuition hikes.

In Eastern Visayas, at least eight colleges had already informed the Commission on Higher Education (CHEd) of their plan to increase tuition and miscellaneous fees from 10 to 20 percent this coming school year.

These schools are St. Peter College, Western Leyte College and STI, all in Ormoc City; Quezon College of Tacloban and STI, both in this city; College of Maasin and St. Joseph College, both in Maasin City; and Samar College in Catbalogan, Samar.

The Quezon College of Tacloban informed the CHEd regional office that it would increase its tuition and miscellaneous fees by 12 percent this coming enrollment, but only for Bachelor of Science in Commerce and Bachelor of Science in Computer Science courses.

The increase would be from P120 to P134.40 per unit and P106 to P118.72 per unit for Commerce and Computer Science courses.

The College of Maasin proposed a 20 percent increase in tuition and 10 percent in other fees.

Ciriaco Sabino Jr., CHEd education supervisor, said these schools have yet to submit reports on the outcome of their consultations with students and teachers to determine the amount of increases.

These eight schools, it was learned, had their consultations Feb. 26-28.

Schools applying for school fees increase are required to conduct dialogues with students, teachers and non-teaching on tuition hikes.

Sabino said it is during the dialogue that opponents of the increases are expected to air their objections.

The schools are required to inform the CHEd of the holding of such consultation 15 days before the scheduled date, Sabino added.

In Mindanao, at least 90 colleges and universities are planning to increase tuition even as students already began mounting protest actions in various schools in Davao City.

The CHEd in Davao was already notified by 94 schools of their plan to increase tuition.

But so far, the CHEd has "acknowledged" only the applications of three colleges, two from the city and the other one from General Santos City, as other schools failed to comply with CHEd requirements.

Teresita Diobordo, CHEd officer for tuition matters, said some schools also failed to prove that 70 percent of their income from tuition increases imposed last year was used to pay for salary increases, allowances and other benefits of teachers and non-teaching staff.

Last Wednesday, some 500 students from San Pedro College, Ateneo de Davao University, Rizal Memorial Colleges and the University of Mindanao, marched to protest the planned tuition increase in these schools.

But Diobordo said school administrators and students need not agree on tuition increases before CHEd acknowledges their application. She said as long as school administrators adequately comply with CHEd requirements, they may increase tuition.

Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc. and The Department of Education, Culture and Sports

Launches First School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week

Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc. (K-CPI), in partnership with the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), launched the first ever "School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week" commencing on March 5 and culminating on March 11. A memorandum was issued by DECS Undersecretary Ramon Bacani through the Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) declaring the first week of March this year and every year thereafter as Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week. The celebration is in support of the Department of Health's (DoH) Women's Health Month.

This year's theme for the "School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week" is "Starting Right! to be a Responsive Filipina." The celebration aims to promote public health by creating awareness on the importance of feminine hygiene among school children, teachers and parents.

DECS Undersecretary Ramon Bacani advocates the celebration of "School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week" in all public and private elementary schools nationwide and enjoins them to organize educational and social activities to mark the occasion. The following are some of the suggested school-based activities for the week-long celebration: an opening ceremony to mark the beginning of the Week, school community parade, literary-musical program, seminars, symposia and art contests. It is also suggested that topics on the role and responsibilities of Filipinas and the importance of feminine hygiene be taken up in the health courses of fifth and sixth grade female students.

"School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week" was spearheaded by Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc., makers of NEWTEX® feminine pads and liners, KOTEX® White* pads and KOTEX® Fresh Breathable Pantiliners. The campaign stems from K-CPI's effort to educate young Filipinas on the importance of proper feminine hygiene for overall good health. K-CPI has an on-going Feminine Hygiene Educational Program called "Starting Right!" which is now going on its 13th year.

DECS-HNC and K-CPI representatives after the successful launch of the first ever "School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week"

Starting Right! to be a Responsive Filipina

Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc. (K-CPI) and the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) launched the first ever "School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week" during ceremonies held at the Discovery Suites in Pasig City.

Present during the launch were DECS-Health and Nutrition Center (HNC) Director Adelfo Trinidad, Assistant Director Thelma Santos, Senior Health Program Officer Zaida Vite, K-CPI Marketing Director Digna Santos and Senior Product Manager for feminine care Aileen Joaquin. Other K-CPI representatives who joined the launch were Product Managers for feminine care Beverly Fugaban and Iris Yu.

K-CPI's Digna Santos delivered a keynote speech, stressing that the feminine hygiene awareness week aims to change the common misconceptions surrounding menstruation. She added that the week will focus on helping educate fifth and sixth grade students, as the activities tackle pre-pubescent issues.

Department of Education, Culture and Sports and Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc.
Celebrate
SCHOOL CHILDREN'S FEMININE HYGIENE AWARENESS WEEK
Theme: Starting Right! to be a Responsive Filip
5 - 11, 2001

DECS-HNC Director Adelfo Trinidad (2nd from left) and K-CPI Marketing Director Digna Santos (2nd from right) hold up a flipchart used for the "Starting Right!" program. With them are (l-r) DECS-HNC Asst. Dir. Thelma Santos and K-CPI Senior Product Manager for feminine care Aileen Joaquin.

Trinidad announced DECS' official declaration of the first week of March, starting this year and every year thereafter, as "School Children's Feminine Hygiene Awareness Week." He also stated that DECS is pleased with the progress of the 12-year partnership with K-CPI through the "Starting Right!" feminine health and hygiene program.

Kimberly-Clark Phils. Inc. promotes feminine health and hygiene through its "Starting Right!" program

Starting Right!

Cool to be Clean. Cool to be Teen.

Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc. Marketing Director Digna Santos announced that the company will continue its long-term efforts to promote health and hygiene among young females nationwide through its "Starting Right!" Feminine Health and Hygiene Educational Program.

K-CPI started the said program over 12 years ago. The program is the only feminine health and hygiene program officially endorsed by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) and is covered by a memorandum of agreement.

The "Starting Right!" Feminine Hygiene Educational Program aims to educate and increase awareness among grade school students on the importance of proper feminine hygiene on overall health development. The "Starting Right!" Program has two core educational components:

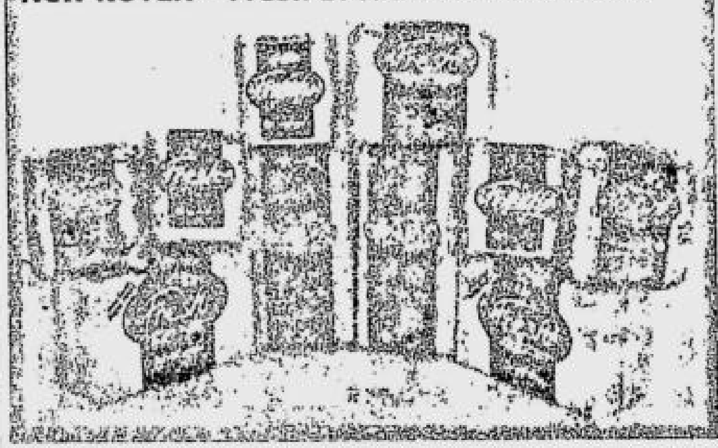
The first is the training of school health nurses and health science teachers on the fundamentals of feminine health and hygiene through the "Starting Right!" Training Courses. During the annual refresher courses, topics on the psychological and physiological aspects of feminine health and hygiene, as well as personality development, are discussed. Various supplementary teaching materials are also distributed to the participants. To date, the K-CPI program has trained more than 2,000 teachers and nurses nationwide.

The second component is the education of young Filipinas on the importance of proper feminine health and hygiene. In the National Capital Region (NCR), teachers trained under the "Starting Right!" Refresher Courses teach the basics of feminine hygiene to grades five and six students. School coordinators are sent by K-CPI to schools in the NCR to supplement teachings on feminine hygiene. Trained school health nurses handle the talks to elementary school children throughout the Philippines. At present, over 10 million students in more than 30,000 schools nationwide have benefited from the Program.

Last August, K-CPI expanded the "Starting Right!" Program when it launched the "Gimik Para Sa Klinik" incentive program in partnership with the DECS-Health and Nutrition Center. The program aims to improve the health clinic services and facilities of over 400 public shools in Lucena and Cavite. K-CPI provided basic health care kits for each school and offered an incentive program to enable school clinics to acquire new furniture, supplies and equipment.

K-CPI, with its feminine care brands NEWTEX® pads and pantiliners, KOTEX® White* pads and KOTEX® Fresh Breathable Pantiliners, continues to educate young Filipinas on feminine care and good grooming through the "Starting Right!" Feminine Hygiene Educational Program, now going on its 13th year. The thrust of the Program is to help young females develop into confident women of the future.

New KOTEX® Fresh Breathable Pantiliners



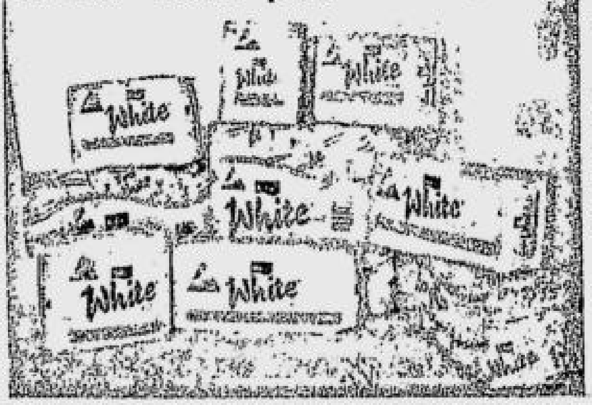
Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc. introduces new KOTEX® Fresh Breathable Pantiliners to suit every woman's need to feel fresh, clean and confident everyday. It is the first and only pantiliner to have a 100 percent cotton cover variant for the softest, most comfortable feeling; handy and resealable purse packs to keep one's pantiliners clean and discreetly packed, and a longer and wider variant for extra protection.

The product also comes in regular, scented and ultra thin variants. It is available in supermarkets nationwide.

Now that there's KOTEX® Fresh Breathable Pantiliners...
Why wear anything else?

Fresh

KOTEX® White* pads



It's time to try something new in feminine pads, something innovative and many times more effective.

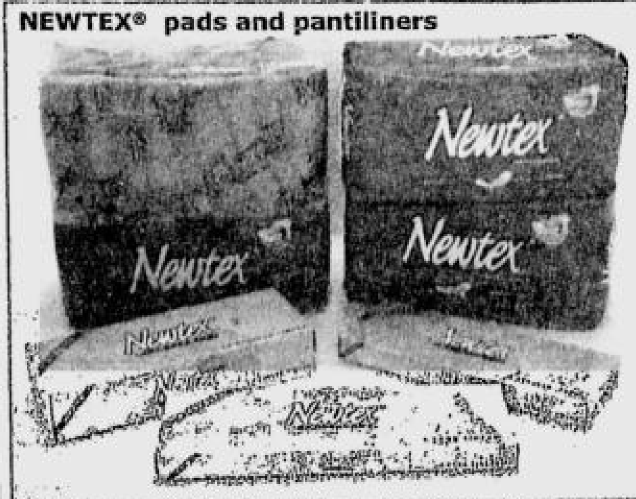
Kimbarly-Clark Philippines Inc. has revolutionized the feminine pads industry with KOTEX® White*. KOTEX® White* is the only pad with the "oval thing in the middle" that provides all around protection to prevent side and end stains. It also has a breathable lining with micropores that allows air to flow through the pad, yet keeps fluid in so you feel clean and comfortable. The soft-dry cover quickly absorbs fluid and directs it inside the pad for a cleaner, drier feeling.

KOTEX® White* Pads are available nationwide in Maxi, Maxi with Wings, Extra Long Maxi, Slim, Slim with Wings and Extra Long Slim.

KOTEX® White...All clean. All white.

White

NEWTEX® pads and pantiliners



NEWTEX® feminine pads have an ultra-absorbent blue strip which quickly absorbs fluid and prevents leaking and staining.

Aside from having channels to prevent side stains, NEWTEX® feminine pads have wide side seals for improved durability and minimized breakage. It also has a soft natural cover for a more comfortable feeling.

NEWTEX® feminine pads offer value for your money and is available nationwide in Maxi 8's, Maxi with Wings 8's and Singles 18's.

Kimberly-Clark Philippines Inc. also offers consumers NEWTEX® pantiliners – thin and comfortable liners that are very affordable. NEWTEX® pantiliners come in regular 8's and 18's, as well as longer 18's.

NEWTEX® ...dahil marunong ka na.

Newtex®

MYTHS AND FACTS ABOUT MENSTRUATION

Myths	Facts
✗ *A girl who washes her face with menstrual blood will have a smooth and clear complexion.*	Menstrual blood was never intended by nature to be a cure for pimples. To keep your complexion smooth and clear, you must practice basic hygiene such as washing your face with soap and water at least three times a day to remove excess oil.
✗ *Bathing and washing your hair during your monthly period will make you crazy.*	There are no medical studies that prove that washing your hair during your menstrual period will make you crazy. In fact, during this time, there is excess build-up of oil on your skin and hair, so it is important to bathe and shampoo everyday.
✗ Menstruation is "dirty blood," so women are unclean during their period.	Menstruation is not dirty blood. It is composed of blood and the inner lining of the uterus called "endometrium" that sheds off monthly if no pregnancy happens. In fact, before the endometrium becomes menstruation, it is full of nutrients that will nourish the baby in case pregnancy occurs. To stay clean, just follow proper hygiene, especially during your period.
✗ Eating sour food will stop the menstrual flow.	You can eat and drink anything you like! Just eat your meals regularly, making sure it's the right food.
✗ Vigorous exercises are prohibited during one's monthly period.	Having your period should not prevent you from doing anything you enjoy, including exercising. In fact, being active prevents menstrual discomfort. So you can bike, jog, do aerobics, even swim if you like! Just make sure you don't overdo it.
✗ Sit or jump from the third step of the stairs to shorten your period to three days.	Each woman has her own menstrual cycle lasting anywhere from 3 to 7 days. Sitting or jumping from the third step of the stairs cannot change that.

INQUIRER Northern Luzon
JUN BANDAYREL, Editor ■ ROLANDO B. FERNANDEZ, Bureau Chief

Defining Northern Luzon

The boundaries of development

BY GIA DAMASO-DUMO
San Fernando City

IN OCTOBER last year, former Presidential Adviser (PA) for North Luzon Junie Cua convened a workshop for journalists and non-government organization representatives from Northern Luzon to get media and community participation in promoting a concept of a "North Philippines."

Some months before, Cua had been appointed presidential action officer with a mission to activate one of the Estrada administration's so-called millennium projects, the Central East Asian Growth Circle program (CEA-GC).

The workshop was held in Angeles City in Pampanga, where the participants for the first time heard of the economic sub-region called "North Philippines," an integration of the culturally diversified Ilocos region, Cagayan Valley, Cordillera and Central Luzon.

"North Philippines" was envisioned to be the sub-region that would do for Luzon what Davao, General Santos, Zamboanga, Cagayan de Oro, Iligan and other participating cities and provinces collectively did for Mindanao in the context of the highly successful Brunei-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East Asian Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA).

It was the latest development in the quiet seven-year existence of the economic sub-region called the Northwestern Luzon Growth Quadrangle or North Quad, which had been touted as the "next socioeconomic miracle" of the country.

Earlier, the North Quad had been expanded and renamed North Luzon Growth Area (NLGA) due to the clamor of local leaders to be included in the development plan and in the hope of creating a better packaged product for potential foreign investors.

In spite of the new packaging, the NLG Commission itself admitted that there are still no "serious investors" in the area to date.

How should development planners really define and promote the northern part of the Philippines? Or, in trademark fashion, has the previous administration merely mangled a good concept such as the North Quad to favor certain personalities and their whims?

GMA's brainchild

The former North Quad was the brainchild of no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo, who hatched the idea when she was undersecretary of the Department of Trade and Industry in the Aquino administration, according to Reynold Galope, deputy director of the NLG Commission's program management office (NLGC-PMO) in San Fernando City.

The quad was envisioned to be "the hub of agricultural productivity, industrial growth and ecotourism (for) an accelerated socioeconomic development" in the North.

Ms Macapagal even attended the two-day visioning workshop in March 1995 to draw up the North Quad's priority projects, Galope said.

On April 30, 1994, then President Fidel Ramos issued Executive Order 175, creating the North Quad Commission. On July 12, 1995, he approved the North Quad Master Plan prepared by Louis Berger International Inc., with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Region I (Ilocos) had been, arguably, the focal point of any North Luzon development plan, including the North Quad Master Plan. Among many reasons, such as strategic location and abundant and diversified resources, it was also where the former president's home province, Pangasinan, belonged.

According to NLGC-PMO's Art Bautista, the North Quad plan was, at one point, the region's hope of bringing back the attention and support to the North which had briefly suffered "neglect" under the post-Marcos administration.

Legal confusion

During the brief term of former President Joseph Estrada, at least four, sometimes discrepant, executive orders were issued that changed the face of North Luzon, at least on paper, or in the minds of its project planners and implementors.

The first was EO 114, issued in June 1998, which created the North Luzon Growth Area, to integrate Regions I (Ilocos), II (Cagayan Valley) and the Cordillera Administrative Region. Formerly, the development area only included Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Pangasinan, Abra, and the BLIST (Baguio-La Trinidad-Itogon-Sablan-Tuba) area in Benguet.

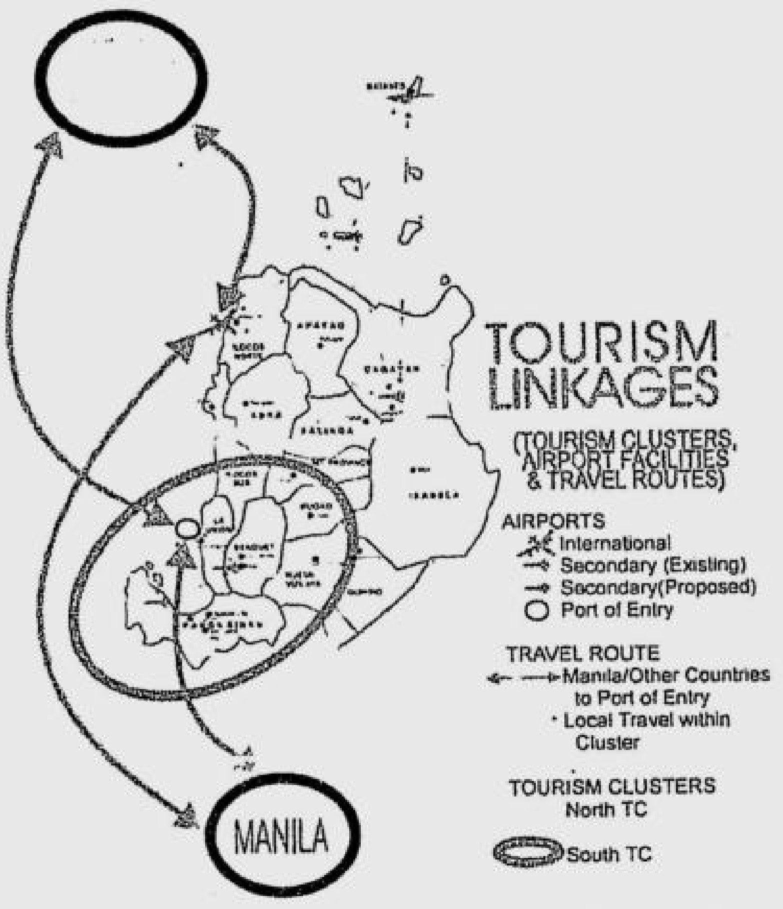
The second was EO 7, issued in September 1998, which established the Presidential Assistant for Regional Concerns or "Pareco" system. It also defined the areas of jurisdiction of the country's seven PAs.

For the PA for Northern Luzon, the areas assigned were Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Pangasinan, Batanes, Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya, Quirino and the cities of Laoag, San Fernando, Dagupan, San Carlos, Urdaneta and Santiago.

An amendment, EO 245, was later made to add the Central Luzon provinces of Bataan, Pampanga, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija and Tarlac and the cities of Cabanatuan, Palayan, San Jose, Angeles and Olongapo to the areas assigned to the PA for Northern Luzon.

In both EOs, it was the executive director of the Cordillera Executive Board, not the PA, who was tasked to serve as liaison for the Office of the President in the Cordillera.

The third was EO 126, amending EO 114 a month after EO 114 was issued, explicitly designating the PA for Northern Luzon as chair of the executive committee of the NLGC. Under the earlier EO, such a position was reserved for anyone who would be appointed by the trade secretary who chairs the NLGC.



After its issuance in 1998, EO 126, which was then perceived to favor Cua, drew varied reactions from members of the Ilocos Regional Development Council (RDC).

Some RDC participants, who asked not to be named, told the INQUIRER that the PA's new designation "added another layer to the bureaucracy" and "duplicated the functions of the regional authorities."

More so, a government official from the RDC argued that the PA for Northern Luzon would have no legal jurisdiction over the CAR since this was not among the areas assigned to him under the EO.

"All these inconsistencies are making the Office of the President look ridiculous. We should scrap this "*Pare ko* (my buddy)" system," the official told the INQUIRER

However, since then, this technical snag has not been resolved.

Finally, there was EO 248 signed by Estrada on May 11, 2000, providing for the activation of the Central East Asia Growth Circle (CEA-GC) program, one of the so-called millennium programs for Northern Luzon, with Cua as the appointed action officer. This, despite the existence of a North Luzon Development Plan.

Uncertain future

Months after holding the media workshop in Angeles to promote the CEA-GC, Cua resigned from his post to run for a congressional seat.

He has been replaced by former Nueva Ecija Rep. Renato Diaz in an acting capacity, raising questions about the future of the program, if it has not already gone the way of its initiator Estrada.

Like the North Quad and the NLGA, the CEA-GC was an initiative for economic cooperation among participating sub-regions within and around the South China Sea, such as Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macau, to improve the business climate in North Luzon.

Some major differences were that the program promoted a "North Philippines" and that the development area included Central Luzon aside from the Ilocos, Cagayan Valley and Cordillera. Further, the administrator of the NLGC served as a member of the CEA-GC program's advisory council.

Already, plans are under way for the four regions' envisioned integration into "North Philippines." business- and tourism-wise.

According to Ramona Ty of the North Philippines Tourism Council, there is a proposal to set up a "reliable tourist transport system" for the North.

She noted that "70 percent of Filipino passengers arriving at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport go home to any of the four regions in North Philippines."

Thus, the airport at the former Clark Air Base could be developed as an alternate international airport and a regular shuttle bus service could be offered to visitors and *balikbayans* arriving via Clark.

The buses would take passengers on an east-west route traversing Pampanga, Nueva Ecija, Isabela, Cagayan, Ilocos Norte, Ilocos Sur, La Union, Benguet, Pangasinan, Tarlac and back to Pampanga, and vice versa, she said.

"We support the CEA-GC program but we also have our own mandate so we will continue to pursue the development direction laid out for the North Luzon Growth Area," Galope said.

The North Luzon Development Plan includes the development of the San Fernando City Airport in La Union as the regional airport and the Laoag International Airport in Ilocos Norte as a fully operational international airport.

Galope said while the CEA-GC is just starting, the NLGC has already made "gains in formulating strategies, providing overall policy direction, coordination and monitoring of development activities" in North Luzon under the leadership of its executive director Hermenegildo Dumlao.

Now that Ms Macapagal is in a position to fully develop the idea she started with the NLGA, Galope is optimistic that the issue of defining North Luzon as an economic sub-region will finally be resolved.

'Guling-guling': Merrymaking before a season of sacrifice

BY CRISTINA ARZADON
Ilocos Norte

A BRIEF afternoon drizzle threatened to spoil the fun. Still, more than 1,000 participants danced their way last week to the Paoay town proper, swinging past brightly decorated houses along the parade route for the annual Guling-guling festival.

DAYTOY TI AMIANAN

Former beauty queen Margie Moran-Floirendo, festival judge, was luckier as she already made her way around the town earlier in the day. On a *kareson*, (carabao-drawn dump cart), Floirendo nodded in awe as she glided past houses whose front yards were decorated with various mementos and local products showing the community's rich heritage and basic industries.

Paoay—famous for its World Heritage religious monument, the St. Augustine Church—is in the middle of a conversion plan to spur development through the conservation of its heritage.

Grandest

The Guling-guling, a pre-Lent festival, is but another means to draw tourism activities. It is a day of merrymaking and street dancing before the Catholics enter the season of sacrifice.

FORGET about the color combination in a tableau in front of a Paoay home and take a closer look at the strange mix of politics. TOOTS SOBERANO

The celebration this year is perhaps the grandest by far since Guling-guling was institutionalized as a festival in 1999.

For Constancia Cudal, 75, it was another year to showcase her priceless possessions: a 1930 *inabel* terno, a *rakem* (an old farmer's tool used in harvesting palay) and pieces of age-old kitchenware like *subsabut* (half of a coconut shell used as plate).

Every year as far back as she could remember, Cudal would be the designated keeper of the village kiosk-turned-booth for the annual affair.

This year, however, is much different from the previous celebrations. What with dozens of national media representatives either mingling with the crowd or taking footage of the event.

"Other towns do not have a festival such as ours. We are proud of this celebration which we inherited from our ancestors," she said.

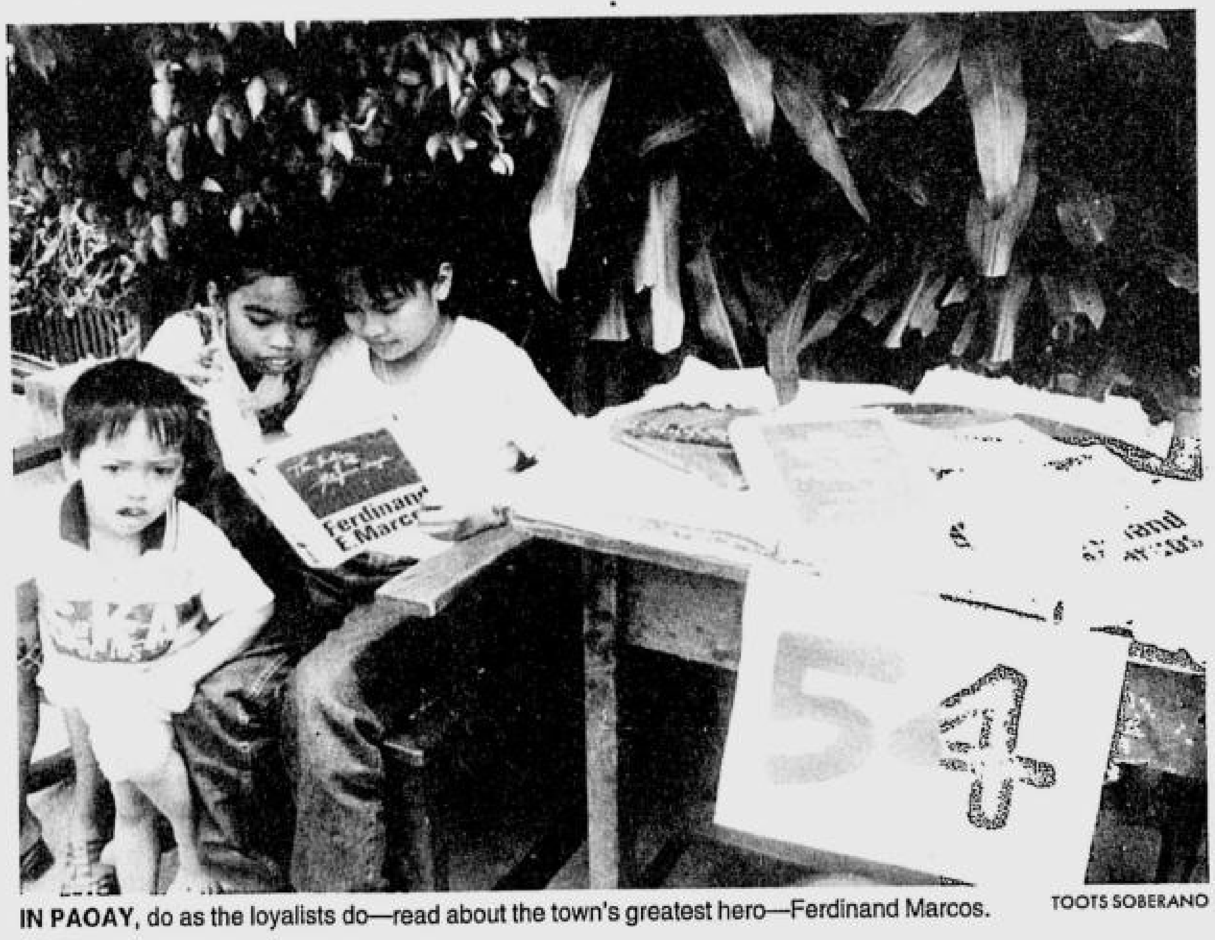
Residents also brought out various keepsakes from black and white family photographs, olden house wares, earthen jars, *abel* Iluko (hand woven fabric) down to a collection of books and memorabilia of Ilocandia's favorite son Ferdinand Marcos.

Last week's affair gave an air of what the town was centuries ago as elderly men, women and children crisscrossed the streets in their traditional dresses.

Memory lane

The proud dwellers of a heritage house in Paoay prepared a brief backgrounder on the American colonial-inspired house famous for its bubble top roof and octagonal façade built during the 1930s.

The elegant wooden house is one of the few remaining heritage houses along with turn-of-the-century structures in Paoay that have been preserved.



IN PAOAY, do as the loyalists do—read about the town's greatest hero—Ferdinand Marcos. TOOTS SOBERANO

The trip down memory lane could have been complete if not for the presence of colorful decorations fluttering around street posts and corner signs. Of course, with festivals like this, trade and business would not be far behind.

A popular fast-food chain set up its own booth to serve its patrons along with an array of *tiangge* stores selling various garments. We saw a thick crowd of youngsters queuing before a group of young artists offering body paint for P5 per design.

"Has the town fiesta just been moved earlier due to elections," somebody asked as we were applauding street dancers swaying to the rhythmic music of Ilocano dances.

We could not get local organizers for an answer. But they did not have to. This year's Guling-guling had all the trimmings and excitement of a typical town fiesta.

Traditionally, the town fiesta is observed on the first week of May. But since that period would have been similarly the peak of the election season, officials might have seen the festival as an opportune time to hold double celebrations. After all, officials would have been focused on running their campaign sorties by then.

"This is even more festive than our town fiesta. But we should never forget to honor our patron, St. Augustine, for his blessings," Nannette Taclan, a schoolteacher, said.

The festival is often held the day before Ash Wednesday, when Catholics officially mark the beginning of the 40-day Lent. Its goal is to literally enjoy the last day of earthly pleasures before town folk observe fasting and penitence the following morning.

Guling-guling, which means to smear in the local dialect, actually refers to a solemn ritual of placing ash on the forehead of the Catholic faithful to pave the way for the 40-day observance of the Lent.

The practice was handed down during the more than 300 years of occupation of the Spanish friars in Paoay. But unlike the customary practice of lining before a priest during Ash Wednesday, the chieftain (town mayor) would imprint the sign of the cross on the forehead using a wet, white rice flour, locally known as *bella-ay*, symbolizing purity. It is said that those who failed to receive the *guling* (imprint) would be courting bad luck.

To Paoay residents, Guling-guling is also a day to pause from their daily chores and go out to the streets singing, dancing and drinking before they enter Lent the following day.

The fight is not yet over...

A QUEST FOR STABILITY AND PROGRESS

We experienced a miracle at EDSA II. We ousted a morally corrupt President through the united determination of our people. But the process of change has just begun.

Our work now is to build a nation under God...

- *where men and women of integrity and competence serve in government for the good of the people.*
- *where the people themselves participate actively in the task of nation building.*
- *where action is guided by principles that are pro-God, pro-life, pro-family and pro-poor.*

The coming election is another opportunity for us to make significant progress in the task of nation building. Dark forces still hover over our land to thwart the victory at EDSA II. For stability and progress, we need to elect the right people.

Preserve the gains of EDSA II. Reject those who deceived us. Let our battle cry be:

13-0

This fight is for the future of our nation.
This fight is for the future of our children.
This fight is for the glory of God.

Will these evildoers never learn?
They devour my people as they devour bread: they do not call upon God.
They have good reason to fear, though now they do not fear.
For God will certainly scatter the bones of the godless.
They will surely be put to shame, for God has rejected them.
Oh, that from Zion might come the deliverance of Israel,
That Jacob may rejoice and Israel be glad
when God restores the people!
(Psalm 53: 5-7)

COUPLES FOR CHRIST

13-0
MOVEMENT

Villanueva named AFP chief of staff

(From page A1)

frontrunner Marine Lt. Gen. Edgardo Espinosa and former Navy chief Rear Adm. Guillermo Wong, would be named chief of Manila's Economic and Cultural Office (Meco) in Taiwan and ambassador to an Asean country, respectively.

Villanueva is considered as Reyes' candidate for AFP chief of staff.

"The President has spoken and the entire Armed Forces will rally behind General Villanueva," Reyes said at a press conference.

Sources said the post of Army commander would go to either Southcom chief Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling or Maj. Gen. Roy Cimatu, chief of the 4th Infantry Division based in Cagayan de Oro City.

Asked to comment on Villanueva's appointment, acting Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita said that he had no inkling of it but that he was not surprised by it.

He said the decision was for the President alone to make.

Ermita described Villanueva as a "dedicated" and "combat-tested" officer who earned his stars fighting battles in Mindanao.

Asked if there was a possibility that the other contenders might engage in some form of military adventurism, Ermita said: "No, not at all. The military is very professional. (Its members) abide by the command and wishes of the commander in chief."

He added that those not selected were bound to "support the choice of the President."

Prerogative

The President named her choice for the top AFP post nine days ahead of her supposed schedule of March 15.

Military insiders said she advanced her announcement to prevent further damage to the military institution caused by the intramurals among the contending officers.

"The infighting could expose to the public more of the military dirty linen," said a source who asked not to be named.

Responding to reporters' questions, Ms Macapagal said the choice of Villanueva was hers alone.

"To begin with, the matter of choosing a commander or chief of staff is really the President's prerogative, and no one can question it," she said. "It's really a subjective judgment call. It can be intuition, it can be anything."

THE CHOSEN ONE: Villanueva as Southcom commander in Mindanao last year after overrunning an MILF lair, Camp Sarmiento. EDWIN BACASMAS

She said this was why she did not impose "black and white criteria" for her choice.

The President also said she had avoided making a "deep selection" and settled for picking from among the three-star generals.

THEY didn't make it: Lt. Gen. Jose Calimlim, Lt. Gen. Edgardo Espinosa, head of the AFP Joint Command and Staff College and Deputy Chief of Staff Maj. Gen. Jaime de los Santos. ERIK ARAZAS/ROGER MARGALLO/EDWIN BACASMAS

"Remember, I also said before that I'm looking for the one who can best unite the Armed Forces behind the Constitution," she said.

But while she made a subjective judgment, she also conducted rigorous consultations starting with the incumbent AFP chief of staff down to "the last private," Ms Macapagal said.

"And I went through the records," she said. "But in the end, really, it is my prerogative, and he is my choice."

In a prepared statement, the President said Villanueva "has served the Filipino with distinction in many and diverse assignments."

She added: "My choice of General Villanueva comes at a time when reforms in the military—a most crucial institution—are being proposed and contemplated.

"I am certain that General Villanueva will do justice to the officers and soldiers who have long brought honor and respectability to the military service."

Ms Macapagal lauded Villanueva as a "champion of values and cherished traditions."

"The country is proud of you," she said.

PMAer

Villanueva, who will serve as the 30th chief of staff of the 113,000-strong AFP, is a 1968 graduate of the elite Philippine Military Academy.

Like Reyes, he headed the Southcom before being appointed Army chief in October last year.

Villanueva took the top Southcom post in place of Espinosa, whom Reyes unceremoniously relieved in February 2000.

He was also in command during the two hostage crises pulled off in Sulu by the extremist Abu Sayyaf.

Villanueva earned his first star as commander of the Army's 503rd Brigade. He got his second star when he became commander of the 1st Infantry Division.

He began his career in the 3rd Artillery Battalion of the 7th Infantry Division, where he was commander of the Alpha Battery.

He later became the intelligence and operations chief of the 1st Infantry Division's Artillery, and commander of the 1st Howitzer Battalion of the 1st Artillery Regiment.

Villanueva holds a master's degree in mass communication from the University of the Philippines. He also studied at the Indonesian Command and General Staff College and the United States Army War College.

His decorations include the Distinguished Service Star, the Military Merit Medal and the Combat Commander Badge.

Outspoken

Both Wong and Espinosa have recently spoken out in the media about alleged corruption in the military. The Office of the Ombudsman is now looking into Wong's allegations.

Espinosa, whom Ms Macapagal calls "Spine" and who was one of the first military officers to express support for her as President, was linked to the 1998 procurement of substandard helmets because he was commandant of the Marine Corps at the time of the purchase.

The case was one of the issues that Wong had raised. *(See story on Page A1.)*

On Monday, Espinosa accused his rivals of supposedly orchestrating the dissemination of derogatory information against him.

The President said Espinosa would fit well as chief of the Meco, which is considered the Philippines' de facto embassy in Taiwan. She said last week that the post was his "for the asking."

As for Wong, Ms Macapagal said: "We would like him to become an ambassador to one of the Asean countries, where the people he would be interacting with will also be military officials."

She did not specify which country, saying "there are a number of them."

Asean, or the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, groups Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Burma, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. *With an AP report*

Military officers ordered: Don't wash dirty linen in media

(From page A1)

"directly or indirectly seeking redress through the use of the tri-media that will destroy the image of the AFP."

Reyes, who is due to retire on March 17, is said to be a contender for the defense portfolio. Observers said revelations of irregularities in the AFP during his last days in office could hurt his chances of clinching the post.

In Cagayan de Oro City, Senate President Aquilino Pimentel Jr. called for an end to "public bickering and mudslinging" among top officers of the Navy, saying these had "demoralizing effects" on government troops.

"The top brass of the AFP should set the example in military discipline, but unfortunately their act of washing dirty linen in public betrays their disregard for the basic rule of discipline," Pimentel said.

He urged President Macapagal-Arroyo and Reyes to crack the whip on the officers concerned.

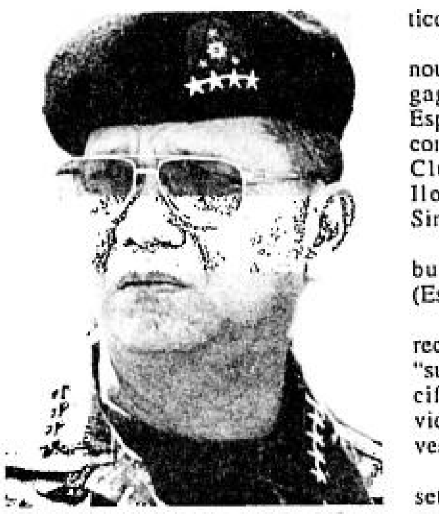
Wong had publicly questioned, among other things, the Marine Corps' alleged procurement of P3.8 million worth of defective Kevlar helmets, disappearance of 72 HK-MP5 assault rifles worth P7.2 million, and misuse of P64.9 million intended for the relocation and replication of the Marine Corps headquarters from Fort Bonifacio to Ternate, Cavite.

Espinosa, once a strong contender for AFP chief of staff, called a press conference on Monday wherein he said there were other and bigger anomalies in the military that must be looked into.

He is one of the Marine officers linked to the purchase of the defective helmets in 1998.

Confident

Reyes said he was "confident" that Espinosa and other officers of the AFP would "desist from the practice of holding press conferences."



OUTGOING AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Angelo Reyes retires on March 17.

While he was completing his announcement that he had issued the gag order, he was informed that Espinosa was to hold another press conference at 4 p.m. yesterday at the Club Filipino in San Juan, with Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson.

Reyes was initially nonplussed, but he said: "I will remind him (Espinosa)."

The AFP chief also said he had directed Espinosa in a memorandum to "submit a formal complaint with specific accusations, with the end in view of having these complaints investigated."

"I would like these issues to be settled in the proper forum so that speculations, innuendoes and baseless conclusions can be avoided," Reyes said.

He reminded all members of the military "to utilize the different organizations within the AFP as venues to air grievances and report anomalies."

These organizations include the Office of the Ethical Standards and Public Accountability and the inspector general's office that is present in all major services and units.

Feuding

Speaking at the 41st founding anniversary of the Army's 4th Infantry Division at Camp Evangelista, Pimentel said the feuding Navy officers should have exercised self-restraint in issuing statements because the AFP inspector general and the Office of the Ombudsman had started looking into the alleged irregularities.

He said the public exchange of accusations, "which has been blown up by the media, could erode the morale of the fighting troops."

Reyes had tried to placate the Marines—the AFP's primary fighting unit—by offering Wong the newly formed Northern Command.

Wong, who is due to retire in December, refused what he considered a demotion and chose to relinquish his post as Navy flag officer in command.

He has been on "floating" status since March 1.

In the wake of Wong's ouster as Navy chief, a number of opinion makers have accused Reyes of poor leadership.

At his Monday press conference, Espinosa raised other cases of irregularities in the AFP.

He cited the alleged misuse of funds for the recruitment of militiamen under the Citizens Armed Force Geographical Units, the questionable practices at the AFP Logistics Command (Logcom), the disappearance of P1.4 billion worth of smuggled goods previously confiscated by the military, and the use of middlemen for the repair of Navy ships.

The cases involving Cafgu funds and the Logcom were seen as a swipe at Reyes.

PPC bets learn winning tips in 'finishing school'

(From page A1)

These were some of the pointers given to the administration's People Power Coalition candidates during a day-long "training seminar" conducted by film director Lupita Aquino-Kashiwahara at the Richmonde Hotel in Pasig City yesterday.

The session was intended to help the PPC Senate candidates look and sound good so that they would sweep the May 14 elections. Which is what President Macapagal-Arroyo wants to happen.

"Since it happened in the Supreme Court, why not?" Ms Macapagal said during a press briefing at the Palace yesterday. She was referring to the high court's 13-0 vote upholding the legitimacy of her presidency.

Finishing school

The day-long finishing school for the senatorial candidates taught them grooming, how to behave and talk during rallies and how to look telegenic.

Kashiwahara, a younger sister of the martyred Ninoy Aquino, talked to the candidates individually to give each one an assessment of their performance and appearance during rallies which she observed in the past weeks.

Later in the day, the candidates were asked to deliver three-minute speeches for Kashiwahara to critique their speaking styles. The video of the impromptu speeches were replayed for the speakers to see for themselves their strengths and weaknesses.

For the sectors they had to address, they drew lots.

"We were given different topics and made to stand in front of the class. We were made to speak for three minutes and later this was replayed for somebody to critique. They wanted to check our speaking style," said Sen. Sergio Osmeña III, one of the four reelectionist senators in the PPC slate.

Body language

Osmeña said they were taught the importance of body language.

"What are we to do with our hands, are we going to put them in our pockets? Because sometimes, a candidate comes off as boastful without intending to," Osmeña said.

"We were made to deliver speeches. Three failed. Two did not want to speak," laughed Makati Rep. Joker Arroyo, the star of the House prosecution panel.

Arroyo, who has confessed to stage fright, said it was easy for him to give his three-minute remarks as he drew the College Editors Guild. Others were not as lucky.

Recto, Batangas representative, did not finish his spiel for "fishermen." Another had difficulty coaxing "out of school youth" to go back to school.

"We're like little kids here being taught how to dress," Arroyo chuckled as Kashiwahara led Rep. Wigberto Tañada to one corner for a one-on-one appraisal.

In no uncertain terms, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. was told to give up his Hawaiian shirts in favor of plain-color shirts.

"I was told that people look at the Hawaiian shirt and not my face anymore. And on TV, the colors tend to scatter," Magsaysay said.

Recto admitted that he was advised not to wear shorts.

"Maybe my legs are not good-looking but Vilma likes them," he said.

Recto's wife actress and Lipa City Mayor Vilma Santos is Recto's secret weapon in his first senatorial run.

Osmeña said the women candidates (PPC has only two—Monsod and Chato) were cautioned against wearing too much jewelry because "they tend to be too flashy."

TV interviews

"When interviewed on TV, do not say ah all over the place," said Sen. Franklin Drilon, the man with the shine on his face. Also "project your good side," Drilon added.

NO SLOUCH: Vice President Guingona and Senate President Pimentel with Senate bet, Winnie Monsod, during a rally at Cagayan de Oro.

Sen. Juan Flavier produced the powdered paper packets given to each of the candidates. They were instructed to wipe the shine and sweat off their faces before facing TV.

"Radio being a hot medium, speak faster, utter short sentences. What they're trying to say is you can shout and yell on radio but not on TV," Osmeña recalled the lessons he learned.

Former Speaker Manuel Villar, Flavier, Pangilinan, Magsaysay and former Bulacan Gov. Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan were asked to improve the delivery of their speeches.

"I was told to end on a high note so I welcome the suggestion," said Flavier, whom Osmeña described as endearing himself to the audience because of his jokes.

On the other hand, Magsaysay must have a strong ending for his speeches and translate his advocacy for ordinary people to understand.

"I was told that my advocacy for information technology, small and medium enterprises, electronic commerce had to be translated into something more understandable such as jobs and livelihood," Magsaysay said.

Villar, who has the most organized campaign group in the slate, said he was also told to fit his speeches to the audience.

"I still have to correct my clumsiness in speaking. I still get tongue-tied when I face a big audience," Arroyo admitted.

Pangilinan said he was told to exude "passion and fire."

"*Kulang daw sa libog ang tawag,*" said Pangilinan, who's married to another movie star, Sharon Cuneta.

"I tend to slouch when I'm sitting," Monsod said. "So they gave us ideas to make us look good."

Chato, former internal revenue commissioner, was told to project a "star quality."

"So I'm psyching up myself as a star," said Chato, who sang during anti-Estrada rallies prior to the Edsa People Power II.

But Pagdanganan and Recto said the most important thing remains what the candidate has to say. And it has got to be free from the usual mudslinging and song-and-dance gimmicks of the old politics, admonished Ms Macapagal.

"We have to give a chance for non-traditional methods to be used. Remember, we want to reform politics. So, this is a new way, they are trying to be very non-traditional. So, let's give them a chance," she said.

She said she had no plans of changing this campaign strategy, regardless of initial setbacks which had administration candidates apparently facing rough sailing getting the support of people in Mindanao.

Aquino replaces Limcaoco

The President announced that Paul Aquino (Lakas campaign manager) will become the PPC's national campaign director starting March 12.

Aquino replaces Conrado Limcaoco reportedly due to snafus in the PPC campaign organization.

"The PPC is now trying to get its act together," Monsod said.

It is about time as opposition leaders claim that the Supreme Court's 13-0 ruling may favor their candidates. Interior Secretary Joey Lina said the opposite could well happen.

"The 13-0 decision underscored the fact that indeed the People Power II revolution was successful and the people who went not only to Edsa but in various places throughout the country and many urban centers were vindicated by the decision," Lina said.

For his part, National Security Adviser Roilo Golez noted that no less than Estrada himself had raised fears that the court ruling may affect his Senate bets.

"Former President Estrada even admitted that he got very depressed upon learning about the 13-0 vote," Golez said. *With a report from Armand Nocum*

Mandaluyong A shares lead with Manila-SSC

FILE PHOTO

ANTONIO: Halves point with Olay.

Standings after Round 4

4 points—Mandaluyong A, Manila-San Sebastian College

3.0—Manila, Davao City, Makati City-Shell, Muntinlupa A, Panabo, Muntinlupa B, Bacolod City, Antipolo City, Dagupan City, Baguio City, Bocaue 3.

2.5—Mandaluyong B, Iloilo City, Calamba.

2.0—Caloocan, Gonzales Law Office, Datu Odin Sinsuat, QC Vice Mayor Angeles, Muntinlupa C, Gen. Santos City, Tacloban City, Angeles (Air Force) A

By Roy Luarca

MANDALUYONG A and Manila-San Sebastian College posted similar hard-earned victories yesterday to share top spot in the 2001 National Inter-Cities and Municipalities Chess Championships at the Kaban ng Hiyas Auditorium, Mandaluyong City.

With Grandmaster Joey Antonio held to a draw by National Master Reggie Olay in Board 1, Muntinlupa A struggled past Davao City, 2.5-1.5, and raised its total to 4 points after four rounds of the tournament organized by the National Chess Federation of the Philippines.

Unable to make any headway in a complicated middle game, Mandaluyong A's Antonio halved the point with Olay, the 1998 Subic Open champion who stunned GM Bong Villamayor in the third round,

Fide Master Idelfonso Datu and deaf-mute Liolen Tubianosa scored the wins for Muntinlupa A, while Ilann Perez yielded to Jimmy Dano in the lower boards.

"I did not force the issue when I saw that Idel (Datu) and Liolen (Tubianosa) were winning," said Antonio.

Manila-SSC, behind the exploits of NM Ronald Dableo and Noel de la Cruz, kept abreast with a 2.5-1.5 victory over Muntinlupa B in the tournament sponsored by Viva Mineral Water, Unilab Inc., DILG, the Philippine Sports Commission and Mandaluyong City.

Dableo beat NM Yves Ranola, while Dela Cruz bested Jojo Aquino. Marlon Ricafort provided the marginal 0.5 point after NM Nicomedes Alisangco bowed to NM Rolly Martinez.

Mandaluyong A and Manila-SSC is disputing the solo lead in the fifth round being played at presstime.

Bacolod City held the GM Eugene Torre-led Baguio City to a 2-2 draw and was bunched at 3 points with Baguio and 10 other teams.

Torre, the NCFP president, and Rex Ami were the scorers for Baguio while NM Rudy Toledo and Ted Ian Montemayor countered for Bacolod City.

Also with 3 points were second-ranked Manila, Davao City, Makati City-Shell, Muntinlupa A, Panabo, Muntinlupa B, Antipolo City and Dagupan City.

IMs Richard Bitoon and Barlo Nadera dumped their rivals as Manila routed Tagbilaran, 3-1.

Other matches saw Makati City-Shell whip Quezon City-Vice Mayor Angeles 3-1; Muntinlupa A whack Angeles City, 3-1, Panabo stop Guagua, 3-1, Antipolo nip Tacloban, 2.5-1.5, and Dagupan trounce Koronadal, 3-1.

Disappointing returns

WHAT CAN I SAY

Bebo Quiros

WORKING on the same statistics provided by the National Stud Farm for our column last week and sorted into some logical fashion by our officemate, Leonardo "Boy" Nallana, we are disappointed by the results of this survey of foal crop 2000 covering the 30 leading stallions based on foal crop size. An average return of less than 40% foals from a broodmare band that was served by 77% of our stallion brigade does not augur well for the future of the breeding industry.

It only means that the industry continues to employ a broodmare population that has grown noticeably older, less efficient, reproducing a perceptively lower class of racehorse as the years go by. One only has to look at what horses compete at the highest level and from whose farms they emanate. Breeders that rested on their laurels based on success in the 70's and 80's and did not replenish their broodmare bands in the 90's face extinction. It doesn't take much more than a cursory look at the sires table to know which stallion, which farm, which horseowner is getting the job done. Not too many.

NUMBER OF MARES COVERED

	Mares Covered 1999	Foals of 2000	%
DISCONNECT	65	13	20.00
SLEW'S FOLLY	64	13	20.31
HEZA GONE WEST	55	24	43.64
FREE WATER	55	18	32.73
KHOZAAM	54	25	46.30
CONQUISTAROSE	48	28	58.33
MEDIUM COOL	47	16	34.04
RINDO INDY	45	12	26.67
HAZM	42	23	54.76
EL RAGGAAS	40	20	50.00
PAY PER VIEW	40	19	47.50
PERISCOPE	34	12	35.29
STRIKE TOO	34	11	32.35
MUSHI MUSHI	32	10	31.25
BARRANTES	29	9	31.03
YONDER	28	13	46.43
THUNDER VIC	27	11	40.74
LIDUBOVNIK	24	8	33.33
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	23	13	56.52
CLASSIC CABOOSE	22	10	45.45

GUT FEEL	22	8	36.36
MIRACULOUS EDITION	21	8	38.10
SNOW OWL	21	7	33.33
JAMES OSCAR	20	8	40.00
TREASURE CAY	18	9	50.00
BURNLEY LAD	17	8	47.06
HOMBRE	17	8	47.06
HEART OF ARABIA	15	9	60.00
PENROD	14	9	64.29
PERFECT HALO	12	7	58.33

FERTILITY PERCENTAGE

	%	Mares Served 1999	Foals of 2000
PENROD	64.29	14	9
HEART OF ARABIA	60.00	15	9
CONQUISTAROSE	58.33	48	28
PERFECT HALO	58.33	12	7
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN	56.52	23	13
HAZM	54.76	42	23
EL RAGGAAS	50.00	40	20
TREASURE CAY	50.00	18	9
PAY PER VIEW	47.50	40	19
BURNLEY LAD	47.06	17	8
HOMBRE	47.06	17	8
YONDER	46.43	28	13
KHOZAAM	46.30	54	25
CLASSIC CABOOSE	45.45	22	10
HEZA GONE WEST	43.64	55	24
THUNDER VIC	40.74	27	11
JAMES OSCAR	40.00	20	8
MIRACULOUS EDITION	38.10	21	8
GUT FEEL	36.36	22	8
PERISCOPE	35.29	34	12
MEDIUM COOL	34.04	47	16
LIDUBOVNIK	33.33	24	8
SNOWY OWL	33.33	21	7
FREE WATER	32.73	55	18
STRIKE TOO	32.35	34	11
MUSHI MUSHI	31.25	32	10
BARRANTES	31.03	29	9
RINDO INDY	26.67	45	12
SLEW'S FOLLY	20.31	64	13
DISCONNECT	20.00	65	13
	39.49 %	985	389

Honda goes big in CART series

THREE series champions and another five race winning drivers highlight the Honda-powered lineup for the 2001 CART FedEx Championship Series.

It is the largest and most accomplished field of drivers and teams in Honda's seven years of Champ Car competition.

Defending series champion Gil de Ferran, two-time title winner Alex Zanardi and American star Michael Andretti headline the lineup.

They are backed up by race winners Helio Castroneves, Adrian Fernandez, Dario Franchitti, Tony Kanaan and Paul Tracy. After a two-year absence, Alex Zanardi returns to Champ Car racing as part of the expanded Mo Nunn Racing team, reuniting him with Nunn, who was the Italian's race engineer during his title-winning 1997 and 1998 seasons.

Tony Kanaan, winner of the 1999 US 500 for Honda, continues in his second year with the team.

Second-year driver Shinji Nakano completes the nine-driver Honda effort, nearly double the total of five cars fielded last season, as Honda seeks its fourth CART manufacturer's championship and sixth consecutive driver's title.

These drivers will be run by five CART teams, led by championship-winning Marlboro Team Penske.

De Ferran and teammate Castroneves accounted for a total of five race wins last year, the most by any team in the series, as Penske returned to Champ Car prominence and claimed its first championship since 1994.

Now entering its fifth season of utilizing Honda-Team KOOL Green will again field the winning duo of Franchitti and Tracy.

With three victories last season, Tracy was a season-long contender for the title, while Franchitti has a total of six career wins and was championship runner-up in 1999.

ANDRETTI

Meanwhile, 1991 series champion—and active career victory leader with 40 race wins—Michael Andretti heads the new Team Motorola operation, run in a technical partnership with the Team KOOL Green effort.

Now leading his own two-car Fernandez Racing team, Adrian Fernandez completes the 2001 Honda field, partnered with sophomore driver Shinji Nakano and assisted by veteran team manager and co-teamowner Tom Anderson. Twice a race winner in 2000, Fernandez took the FedEx Championship title fight down to the season finale at California Speedway and now has seven career race wins.

Juico heads 'Hall' awardees

REYNALDO A. Bautista, Jose Mari Duarte, Macky Dominguez and Philip Ella Juico head the 2001 nominees of the De La Salle Alumni Sports Foundation Inc. for inclusion in the Hall of Fame.

Their installation to the Hall highlights the De La Salle Alumni homecoming on Saturday, March 10, at De La Salle's Taft Ave. campus.

Also to be cited this year is the La Salle UAAP basketball team that completed a rare "three-peat" championship under coach Franz Pumaren.

Citations are also due to other past basketball coaches including Pido Pumaren, Jong Uichico, Virgil Villavicencio and Derek Pumaren, who all contributed,to building up the championship teams.

When installed, Bautista, Dominguez, Duarte and Juico, will be joining former awardees such as football greats Virgilio Lobregat and Sebastian Ugarte; basketball's Dionisio Calvo, Rogelio LaO, Leopoldo Prieto Sr. and Tommy Manotoc; athletics' Andres Franco; golfer Celso Tuason; tennis' Johnny Jose and swimming's Chito Ayesa. These sportsmen and 50 other outstanding Lasallians made it to the Hall in the last eight years since its inception in 1993 mainly through the initiative of Carlos Velez

Masters of billiards

CLEAN LIVING

Manolo R. Iñigo

(WE offer our heartfelt sympathies and prayers to the family of our long-time friend, Pastor "Boy" Saycon, whose wife Rebecca "Becky" Gaskell died on March 4 at age 48. She is survived by children JJ, Paolo and Pepeton, mother Lourdes and her late father, Jose Jesus. Becky's remains lie at the Immaculate Conception Chapel, Santuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati City. Boy Saycon, an active Letran College alumnus, made waves during his heyday as a car rally navigator together with champion driver Dante Silverio. Upon his retirement from motorsports competition, Boy became a leader of the Council of Philippine Affairs, the organization that ousted Joseph Estrada and supported President Macapagal in the historic People Power II.)

THE LAST several days have been very hectic for world-class billiards players Efren "Bata" Reyes, Francisco "Djangco" Bustamante, Rodolfo "Boy Samson" Luat and Leonardo "Dodong" Andam. Clearly the rage of the Philippine pool scene, these top guns of Puyat Sports are busy nowadays, shooting a series of TV commercials for San Miguel Beer—for a handsome fee of course.

But despite their long absence from the pool table, fans will see these "Supreme Masters of Billiards" in action again during a one-day, P100,000 tournament sponsored by SMB at Metropolis Mall in Alabang on Saturday, March 10. The keenly awaited matches start at 1 p.m.

Although Reyes, in particular, has been inactive since he won the World Pro Pool Championship in Cardiff, Wales, in 1999 and pocketed his only major crown, the World 8-Ball Championship in Las Vegas, which he won for the third time last year, the Filipino continues to be popular here and abroad.

The subject of virtually every pool-related topic, Reyes, was voted by the American publication "Pool & billiard Magazine" as the leading favorite male player in the year 2000, nosing out American legends Johnny Archer, Earl Strickland and Buddy Hall. Overall, Woman Player of the Year Allison Fisher (of England/USA) emerged the No. 1 choice in the survey.

On Saturday, Reyes, aptly called the "Magician" because of his smooth and oftentimes incredible shots, trades billiards' brilliance against the country's toughest dudes, some of whom may take over when the time comes for him to permanently sheath his cue. By the way, Reyes, now pushing 47, holds the distinction of being the first Filipino athlete to endorse a cue stick made in the United States.

In a nutshell, here are the players' profiles:

● EFREN "BATA" REYES. Reyes showed the world that the Filipino is second no one in billiards when he won the World Professional 9-Ball Championship in Cardiff in 1999. This humble native of Angeles City in Pampanga also became the only non-American winner of the US Open in 1994, three-time World 8-Ball champion; SEA Games gold medal winner in Jakarta in 1987 and Brunei in 1999; PSA Athlete of the Year in 1999; and recipient of the Philippine Legion of Honor.

●"DJANGO"BUSTAMANTE. From Maliwalu, Tarlac, Bustamante is now based in Germany. He was ranked No. 1 player in the world in 1998 and overall champion of the lucrative Camel Pro Billiards Series. The top ranking 9-Ball player in Europe, Bustamante was also the back-to-back (1998-1999) Tulsa 9-Ball champion and winner of the 1999 Champion of Champions Tournament in Connecticut. He placed third in the World Pro Pool Championship in Cardiff.

● "BOY SAMSON" LUAT. Also a native of Angeles City, Luat emerged winner of the 1999 Northwest 9-Ball Championship in Idaho, the 1996 Charlotte 9-Ball Championship and the 1991 Asian Championship in Osaka. He placed third behind Johnny Archer and Jeremy Jones in 1999 US Open 9-Ball Championship in Norfolk, Virginia.

● "DODONG" ANDAM. Before turning pro, Andam, who is from Dadiangan, Cotabato, won four gold medals in the1991 Manila SEA Games. In the pro ranks, he won the Dallas open, Target Pool Championship in Las Vegas and finished second to multi-titled Jimmy Archer in the California Clash tournament in San Diego, California.

Shell motocross champion

SHELL-Yamaha-No Fear Racing Team, the "Home of the Champions," lived up to its billing by dominating the kickoff leg of the PLDT presents MAD (Mamamayan Ayaw sa Droga) National Motocross Super Series 2001 in Fort Bonifacio recently.

Led by 1994 champion Ernie Leongson and Irwin Uypitching, the Shell-Yamaha-No Fear dominated three of the major categories and finished highly in the other classes to the delight of a big weekend crowd.

Leongson finished a close second to former Shell-Yamaha teammate and defending champion Glen Aguilar in "easily one of the day's most exciting races" in the pro 125 category.

Uypitching, a prized find from the talent-rich Dumaguete City, dominated the expert category despite the presence of his more experienced rivals.

Two other Shell-Yamaha-No Fear riders—Karl Poculan and Dan Ramirez—also swept their respective categories in this annual series organized by Hartebeest Entertainment Corp.

Poculan topped the open production 125, while Ramirez ruled the executive B.

"I'm satisfied with our performance this weekend. Most of them (riders) are still trying to feel their way and we expect them to improve their times in the succeeding legs," said Leongson, who also serves as skipper of the star-studded motocross team.

Leongson said the team's rigid off-season training and the all-out support of team sponsors/backers make Shell-Yamaha-No Fear riders as among the favorites this year.

Caller-ID Security*
for internet access

http://www.surfshop.net.ph

Call us at:
753-3217

SURF SHOP INTERNET

*Available to Surfshop Subscriber only

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SPORTS

AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▣ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

Paeng to compete in London

FOUR-TIME World Cup champion Paeng Nepomuceno faces his biggest test since undergoing a complicated wrist surgery two years ago when he competes in the prestigious World Tenpin Masters tournament on March 8-11 in London. The 44-year-old, left-handed Nepomuceno is scheduled to fly to London today. It will be the first international outing for Nepomuceno since he was operated on shortly after winning the World Tenpin Masters title in 1999.

Prisaa begins in Angeles

ANGELES CITY—Central Visayas starts defense of its overall title as the Private Schools Athletics Association championships begin today with track and field events at the Angeles University Foundation here. Matias "Bombi" Aznar, Central Visayas head of delegation, expressed confidence that the Visayans will keep their title in the face of stiff opposition from the National Capital Region.

SMB eyes solo lead vs Purefoods

By Marc Anthony Reyes

PBA STANDINGS

	W	L
San Miguel	5	2
Shell	5	2
Ginebra	5	2
Red Bull	4	3
Pop Cola	3	4
Purefoods	3	4
Alaska	3	4
Tanduay	3	5
Mobiline	2	4
Sta. Lucia	2	5

GAMES TODAY
(Ynares Center)
5:15 p.m. – Alaska vs Mobiline
7:30 p.m. – SMB vs Purefoods

PUREFOODS, still trying to fix its ongoing trade talks involving premier point-guard Dindo Pumaren, faces another tough test today when it battles San Miguel Beer in the PBA All Filipino Cup at the Ynares Center.

Pumaren has set his sights on transferring to Tanduay Gold but the details of the trade have yet to be finalized.

Purefoods coach Eric Altamirano has been using Pumaren sparingly. Pumaren was benched for the entire second half during the Purefoods-Alaska match recently.

It was Boyet Fernandez who took Pumaren's point-guard chores in that game that saw Purefoods lose, 74-81.

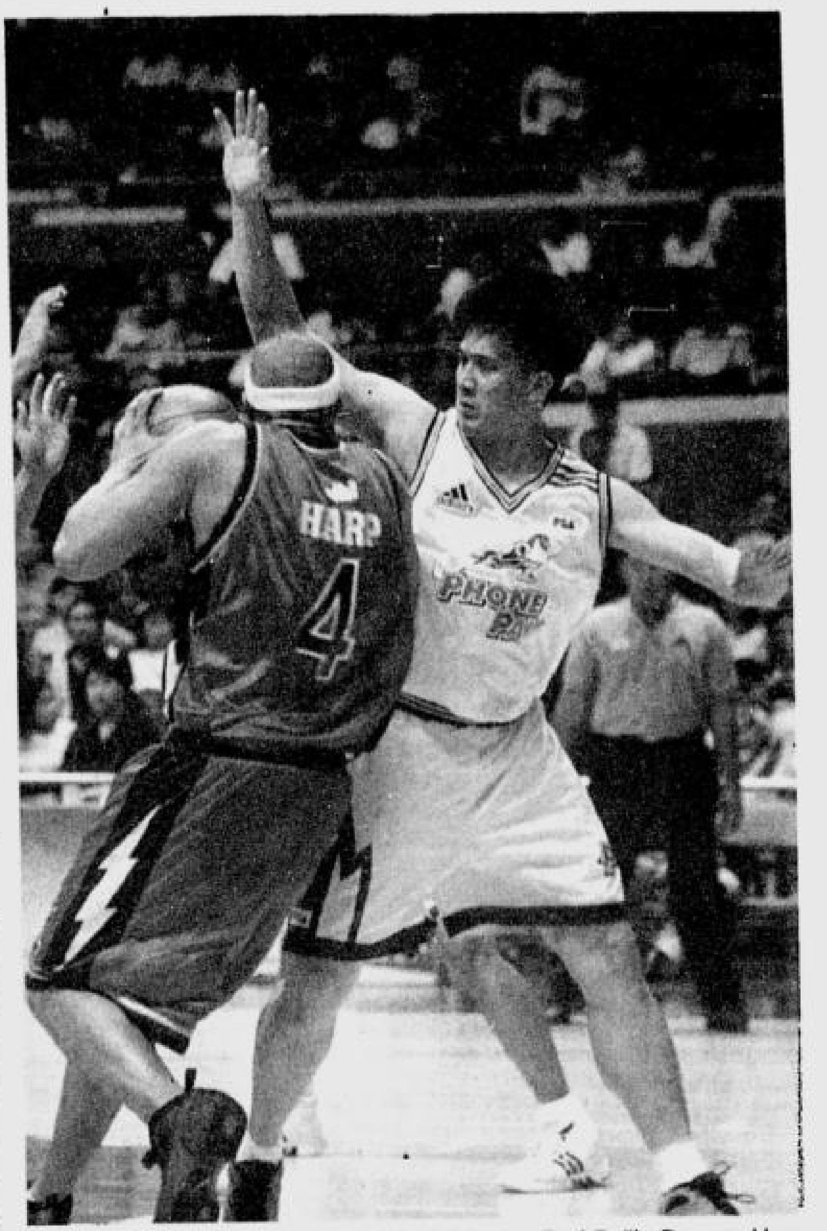
Pumaren has been very vocal about his desire to leave Purefoods and join his brother Derrick, who is now Tanduay's head coach.

The Hotdogs will be facing a rejuvenated Beermen lineup that is aching to recapture the solo lead in the 7:30 p.m. game.

Alaska Milk tries to sustain its winning run against Mobiline in the first game at 5:15 p.m.

SMB coach Jong Uichico, whose charges snapped a two-game slide with a 78-63 win over Pop Cola last Sunday, said they have enough motivation to succeed in this conference.

The Beermen have not won the All Filipino Cup since 1994.



MOBILINE center Jerry Codiñera (right) keeps Red Bull's Devonn Harp in check during their recent PBA game won by Red Bull, 80-68. The Phone Pals will need a lot of Codiñera's hustle when they take on the Alaska Milk Aces today at Ynares Center. DENNIS SABANGAN

Monico wants Bacolod, Iloilo to host SEAG

PUENTEVELLA

BACOLOD and Iloilo are bidding to jointly host the Southeast Asian Games when the Philippines plays host to the biennial meet in 2005.

The bid was announced yesterday by Monico Puentevella, a former commissioner of the Philippine Sports Commission.

"Bacolod and Iloilo, being centrally located in the country, are available to host the SEA Games," said Puentevella at the PSA Forum at the Holiday Inn Manila.

"If Chiang Mai, which is an hour's ride by plane from Bangkok, can hold the SEA Games (in 1995) I see no reason why Bacolod and Iloilo which are also both an hour away by plane from Manila, cannot hold the sportsfest," said Puentevella.

Puentevella said he has already secured the cooperation of provincial and city governments of Bacolod and Iloilo for staging the SEA Games "because we already have the basic infrastructure for hosting the event."

Puentevella, who is running as an administration bet for congressman in Bacolod, said his city already has the Panaad Sports Complex which has already been the venue of past local multi-event competitions "and all we need is to invest a little bit more to come to international standards."

The Panaad played host to the 1998 and 2000 Palarong Pambansa as well as the first Batang Pinoy national competitions in 1999.

"Bacolod and Iloilo also have the hotels needed to participating athletes in the event of this magnitude," he said.

"Compared to Clark, which I understand is also being eyed as the site of the SEA Games, we believe that we are ahead in development. And unlike Clark we are bidding while the latter has not made any indication on whether it wants the SEA Games or not," Puentevella said.

LGT Bank Centennial tops regatta

THE ALL-FILIPINO entry of Team Centennial, supported by LGT Bank of Liechtenstein, beat Hi-Fidelity, a similar yacht with equal handicap rating of top Hong Kong yachtsman Neil Pryde and 1999 and 2000 champion of the Lipton Cup Series in Southeast Asia, to win the recent 9th President's Cup Regatta. The Filipino team is skippered by Philippine Sailing Association president Judes Echauz. It was helmed by the 470 class champion Louie Perpectua, Jojo Tayong (tactics), Allan Balladares (main trimmer), Balting Asejo (foredeck) and Tom Hofvenschiold (navigation). The regatta was part of the SEA Games preparation in Malaysia where the Philippine entries are mostly from the Centennial Sailing Team. The team placed first in the Platu 25 Nationals held in Subic Bay in January.

Karatekas bag 12 medals in HK

HONG KONG—The Philippine karatedo team bagged 12 medals, including three golds, to finish second overall in the just-concluded Hong Kong invitational tournament at the Kowloon Park Indoor Game Hall here. Veteran internationalist Ryan Bonifacio Mariano, Junel Perania and Kim Torres produced the three RP golds in the minus 65-kilogram, minus 80-kg and plus 80-kg men's kumite events, respectively. Dianne Moral, Jerome Laplana and the men's kata team of Salvador "Buddy" Veguillas, Ian George Jereos and Emerson Malolos clinched silver medals while Cherli Tugday, Jeroes, Reiner de Leon, Peter Cardona, Paolo Nicolas Veguillas and the men's kumite squad of De Leon, Ireneo Soriano, Cardona, Paolo Nicolas Veguillas, Perania, brandy Mariano and Torres took silver medals.

Domingo wins Ted Cruz bikefest

NATIONAL team member Enrique Domingo outsprinted his breakaway partner Eric Feliciano of Nueva Ecija in the last 300 meters to capture the Ted Cruz Cycling Classic last weekend in Mangaldan, Pangasinan. Domingo pocketed P5,000 and Feliciano P3,000. Veteran Bernard Luzon finished third and won P2,000 in the bikefest that drew 73 cyclists. Rounding up the Top 10 are Sherwin Diamsay (fourth), Renato Sembrano, Dante Barnachia, Darwin de la Cruz, Albert Primero, Reynaldo Navarro and Reynante Conde. The 144-km race was supported mainly by Rep. Ted Cruz and was held as part of Mangaldan's town fiesta.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled By Lorenzo Manguiat

BASKETBALL: NBA - Indiana Pacers vs New York Knicks at 9 a.m. (r – 8 p.m.) on ESPNAT&T Big East Tournament, First Round tomorrow at 1 a.m. on ESPN
TENNIS: ATP Sybase Open, Finals at 7 p.m. on Star Sports
MOTOR SPORTS: Motoworld at 8 a.m. on ESPN
In the Driver's Seat at 8:30 a.m. (r) on ESPN
Max Power at 6 p.m. on Star Sports
Race Day - Australian Grand Prix at 9 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
F1 Australian Grand Prix at 9:45 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
GOLF: PGA Genuity Championship, Third Round at 8 a.m. (r) on Star Sports
WRESTLING: WCW Worldwide at 3 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
ICE SKATING: ISU Grand Prix Final 2000, Highlights #2 at 10 a.m. on Star Sports. *Schedules subject to change without prior notice.*

RIGHT HAIR, RIGHT NOW

HORSESHOE ON YOUR HEAD? YOU'VE GOT U-SHAPED HAIR

No matter how much hair is left on your head or what shape it's in, Svenson International can add the right amount of real hair to give you a naturally fuller look.

LOST YOUR CROWN? YOU'VE GOT O-SHAPED HAIR

Non-Surgical Hair Integration Method uses hair that matches exactly with your own hair's look and texture. It is added on to your remaining hair and blends in perfectly. It is the ideal alternative to regaining the hair you've lost in particular areas unlike ineffective topical creams, fake-looking wigs and toupees, and so-called hair-restoring prescription drugs that have adverse side effects. Through this hair replacement method, you can make your bald spot disappear for good.

RECEDING HAIRLINE? YOU'VE GOT M-SHAPED HAIR

So whether you've lost hair at the top, front, or at the sides, you can still have a full head of hair again. Come to Svenson now!

Svenson International
YOUR CHOICE NOT TO BE BALD

MAKATI
Solid Mills Bldg., dela Rosa St
817-2260
817-2194

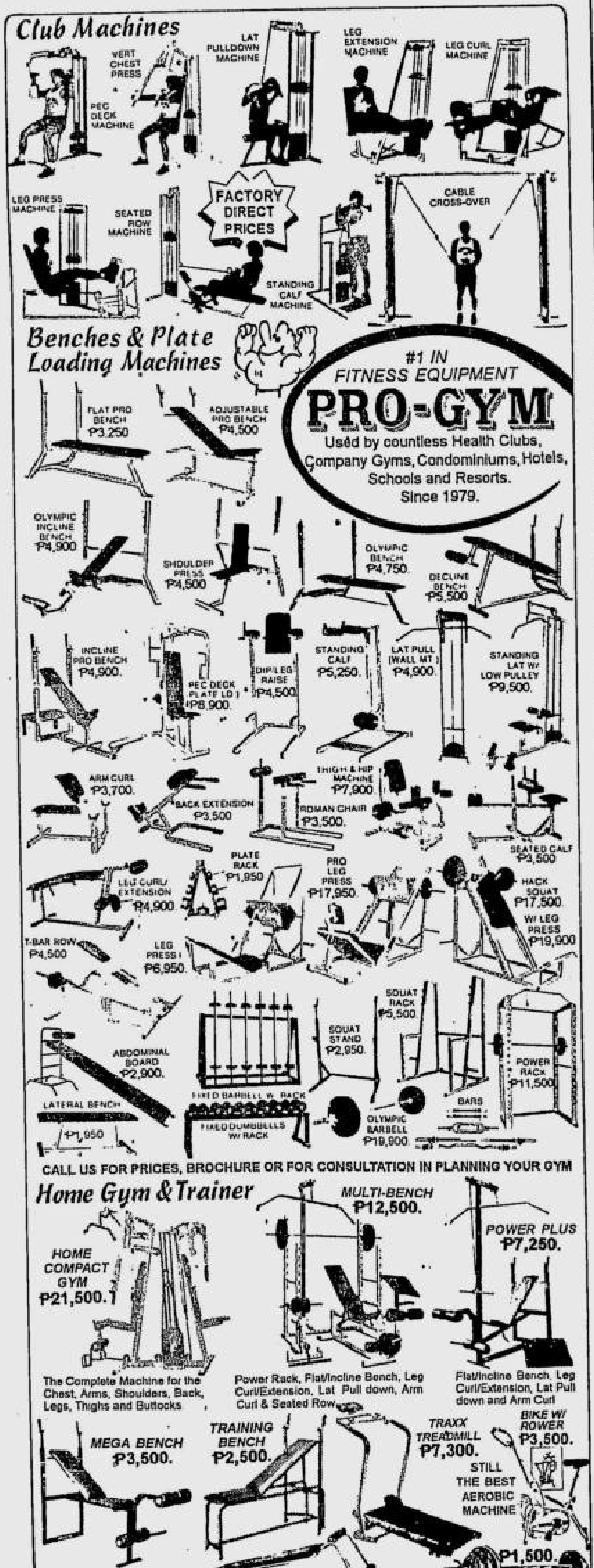
QUEZON CITY
Cedar Executive Bldg., Timog Avenue
372-6631
372-6632

BINONDO
Federal Tower Bldg., Dasmariñas St.
243-0128
244-8913

ALABANG
Citibank-Frabelle Bldg., Alabang-Zapote Rd
842-1389
842-4181

CEBU
Keppel Centre, Cebu City
032-2340851
032-2340853

MON. - FRI. (8 AM - 7 PM) / SATURDAY (8 AM - 3 PM)


Club Machines
VERT CHEST PRESS
PEC DECK MACHINE
LAT PULLDOWN MACHINE
LEG EXTENSION MACHINE
LEG CURL MACHINE
LEG PRESS MACHINE
SEATED ROW MACHINE
FACTORY DIRECT PRICES
STANDING CALF MACHINE
CABLE CROSS-OVER
Benches & Plate Loading Machines
FLAT PRO BENCH ₱3,250
ADJUSTABLE PRO BENCH ₱4,500
OLYMPIC INCLINE BENCH ₱4,900
SHOULDER PRESS ₱4,500
OLYMPIC BENCH ₱4,750
DECLINE BENCH ₱5,500
INCLINE PRO BENCH ₱4,900.
PEC DECK PLATE LD'I ₱8,900
DIP/LEG RAISE ₱4,500
STANDING CALF ₱5,250.
LAT PULL (WALL MT.) ₱4,900.
STANDING LAT W/ LOW PULLEY ₱9,500.
ARM CURL ₱3,700.
BACK EXTENSION ₱3,500
THIGH & HIP MACHINE ₱7,900
ROMAN CHAIR ₱3,500.
SEATED CALF ₱3,500
LEG CURL/ EXTENSION ₱4,900
PLATE RACK ₱1,950
PRO LEG PRESS ₱17,950.
HACK SQUAT ₱17,500 W/ LEG PRESS ₱19,900
T-BAR ROW ₱4,500
LEG PRESS I ₱6,950.
ABDOMINAL BOARD ₱2,900.
LATERAL BENCH ₱1,950
FIXED BARBELL W/ RACK
FIXED DUMBBELLS W/ RACK
SQUAT STAND ₱2,950
SQUAT RACK ₱5,500
OLYMPIC BARBELL ₱19,900
BARS
POWER RACK ₱11,500
Home Gym & Trainer
HOME COMPACT GYM ₱21,500.
MULTI-BENCH ₱12,500.
POWER PLUS ₱7,250.
MEGA BENCH ₱3,500.
TRAINING BENCH ₱2,500.
TRAXX TREADMILL ₱7,300.
STILL THE BEST AEROBIC MACHINE
BIKE W/ ROWER ₱3,500.
SIT-UP BOARD ₱1,500.
BARBELLSET (50 LBS.) ₱1,500.
DUMBBELL PR(25 LBS.) ₱900.
FACTORY OUTLET

#1 IN FITNESS EQUIPMENT
PRO-GYM
Used by countless Health Clubs, Company Gyms, Condominiums, Hotels, Schools and Resorts.
Since 1979.

CALL US FOR PRICES, BROCHURE OR FOR CONSULTATION IN PLANNING YOUR GYM

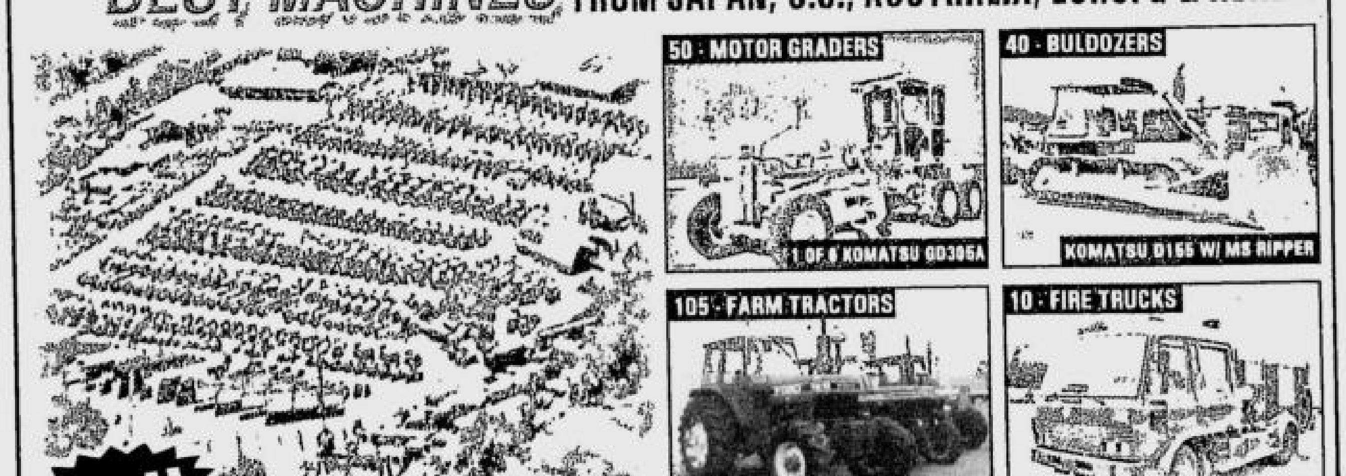
The Complete Machine for the Chest, Arms, Shoulders, Back, Legs, Thighs and Buttocks

Power Rack, Flat/Incline Bench, Leg Curl/Extension, Lat Pull down, Arm Curl & Seated Row

Flat/Incline Bench, Leg Curl/Extension, Lat Pull down and Arm Curl

SEPTEM, INC.
68 HALCON I ST., QUEZON CITY
PROVINCIAL ORDERS, WRITE OR CALL
TO ORDER, CALL:
742-18-08
741-59-74
743-13-49
FAX: 742-61-59
E-MAIL progym@evoserve.com

ASIA INTERNATIONAL AUCTIONEERS, INC. AiA
presents
www.asia-intl-auctioneers.com
asiainc@svisp.com
The BEST MACHINES FROM JAPAN, U.S., AUSTRALIA, EUROPE & KOREA!


50 - MOTOR GRADERS
1 OF 6 KOMATSU GD305A
40 - BULDOZERS
KOMATSU D155 W/ MS RIPPER
105 - FARM TRACTORS
3 OF 20 FORD 4WD FARM TRACTORS
10 - FIRE TRUCKS
1 OF 2 NISSAN FIRETRUCKS
C.B.U.

TRUCKS & EQUIPMENT
UNRESERVED PUBLIC AUCTION
MARCH 28, 29 & 30, 2001
INSPECTION: MAR. 25-27
Auction Style: PARADE
Call us in MANILA at 531-5751 / 5789 / 5061, or in SUBIC at (047) 252-3333 / 7936 / 6841 • FAX # (047) 252-6840
NO MINIMUM PRICE • ALL MUST GO • TAXES & DUTIES PAID

METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

14 foreigners in stock fraud flee A22

LRTA nominee hits 'demolition job' A22

Burned man kin of Erap mistress, say police

By Agnes E. Donato

ONE of two men whose charred bodies were found in Dasmariñas, Cavite last week was a relative of Joy Melendrez, one of deposed President Estrada's known mistresses, police said yesterday.

A policeman from the Eastern Police District (EPD) who asked not to be named said the body belonged to Manuel Melendrez Jr., 32, a dismissed member of the Philippine National Police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (PNP-CIDG).

Joy Melendrez's father is a Pasig City policeman.

Victim Melendrez, of Caniogan, Pasig, was reportedly identified through his Rolex wristwatch by his brother PO2 Manuel Melendrez III.

The other body belonged to John Silverio, 35, of Katipunan Road, Quezon City, police said.

Silverio was the grandson of Bulacan Rep. Ricardo Silverio.

The EPD director, Chief Supt. Simeon Dizon Jr., said Melendrez

BURNED/ A22

MUHLACH and Gonzales.

Aga-Charlene May wedding a 4-day event

By Leah Salterio

THE WEDDING in May of actor Aga Muhlach and beauty queen-actress Charlene Gonzales will be a four-day event with 400 invited guests.

The wedding itself will be held on May 28, Monday, at 3 p.m. at St. Joseph's Pacdal Church, but several activities, including a golf tournament in Camp John Hay in Baguio, will precede the grand day.

"I've always dreamt of getting married in Baguio since I was young and that dream has never changed," Muhlach said during dinner with entertainment writers Monday night.

AGA/ A22

QC trees saved from 'massacre'

By Armand N. Nocum

TREES lining up Quezon Avenue in Quezon City yesterday were given a new lease on life when the national government agreed to transplant instead of destroy them to give way to a P393.80-million interchange.

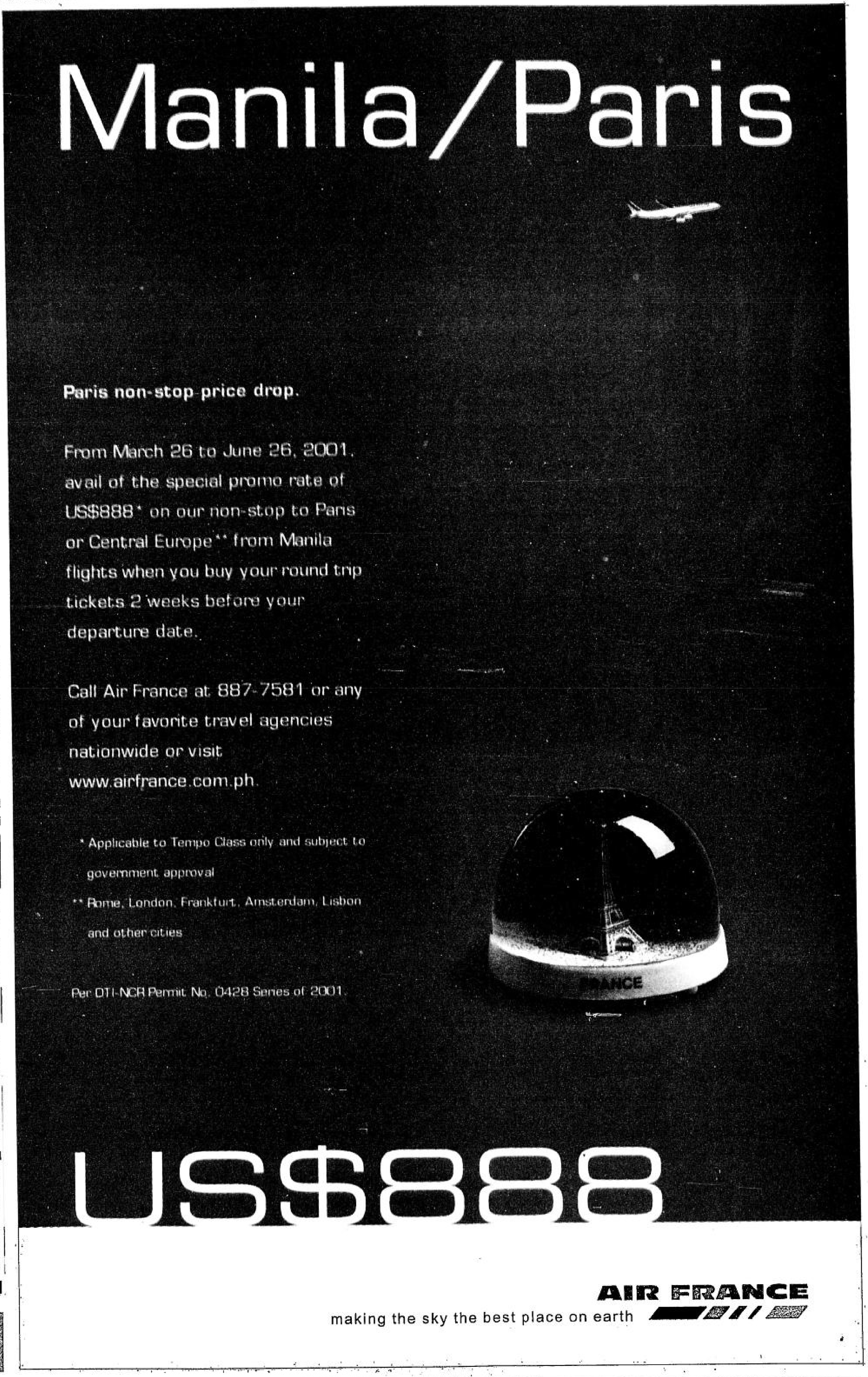
In simple ceremonies in Malacañang, Public Works Secretary Simeon Datumanong said some of the trees would be given to interested private

QC TREES/ A22

Wazzzzup?

AUDIOTORIUM 21 WEST AVE. QUEZON CITY	RUBBERBAND REPLAY BAND	374.2330 / 373.5574
Bugsy BASEMENT #208 TOMAS MORATO	ROLAND OPEN 24 HRS. 373-7181	FOR SOLO PLAYERS GAME MATES AVAILABLE
BUMA Grill & Bar 9595 KAMAGONG ST. MAKATI	SUGAR SPICE	6-9PM P35 BI TI BEERS 896.2116/896.6554
Cowboy Grill BRGY ALMANZA, LAS PINAS	SERSIDE EZEKIEL	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 801.7644
Cowboy Grill 1190 ARQUEZA ST., MABINI	DECADE SOCIETY REPLICA/HEARTBEAT	NO ENTRANCE FEE 525.1474/525.4269
Cowboy Grill 411 REMEDIOS ST., MALATE	GOALKEYS FEEDBACK	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 521.8143
Cowboy Grill NOVALICHES, Q.C.	MAEGAN AGUILAR SWEETBLOOD	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 453.4329
KAMPO 2088 #47 WEST AVENUE Q.C.	MAGIC TOUCH 7TH SOUL/ORIGIN	P 200 CONSUMABLE ☎ 373.7181/83
EXAMINER'S LITE n'LIVE #52 EXAMINER ST., Q.C.	BIG DEAL X-PROJECT	P 80 ENTRANCE FEE HAPPY HOUR 6-9 PM
PADI'S POINT MANILA SN MARCELINO ALBOIS SM M.A.	7 SECONDS	NO ENTRANCE FEE 527.6180/527.6211
PADI'S POINT MINDAVE I MINDANAO AVE. COR. CONGL. Q.C.	TOY SYMPHONY	OPEN UNTIL 2:30 AM 453.0080/925.3117
TIA MARIA'S REMEDIOS cor CAROLINA	TH-3 VERSE TWO	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 522.0429
OTHER PLACES		
Cowboy Grill BINAN, LAGUNA.	STAY TUNED PRYZM	NO ENTRANCE FEE ☎ (049) 511.7268
Jer's II 3RD FLR CHOWKING BLDG REAL CALAMBA, LAGUNA	ALTER EGO LADIES NIGHT	LADIES NO ENTRANCE FEE
Ka Freddie Music Restaurant MARCOS HIGHWAY, ANTIPOLO	MATET NOVAL NIEL CEDRO	P20 ENTRANCE FEE ☎ 677.0795
PartyPlace SANFERNANDO, PAMPANGA	LIVESTREAM	MONGOLIAN BARBECUE WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS

WEDNESDAY, March 07 912-8983



Manila/Paris

Paris non-stop price drop.

From March 26 to June 26, 2001, avail of the special promo rate of US$888* on our non-stop to Paris or Central Europe** from Manila flights when you buy your round trip tickets 2 weeks before your departure date.

Call Air France at 887-7581 or any of your favorite travel agencies nationwide or visit www.airfrance.com.ph.

* Applicable to Tempo Class only and subject to government approval

** Rome, London, Frankfurt, Amsterdam, Lisbon and other cities

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0428 Series of 2001.

US$888

AIR FRANCE

making the sky the best place on earth

GET your CTPL and COMPREHENSIVE MOTOR VEHICLE insurance now!

PARAMOUNT GENERAL INSURANCE CORPORATION
Insurance made easier!

LOG ON TO www.paramount.com.ph
The country's first online insurance market

Barangay officials in ₱30-M seminar

By Martin Marfil

PUERTO PRINCESA CITY – "Waste" led to a jampacked airport here as about 1,000 Manila barangay captains and council officers flew in for a one-day seminar on waste management.

Waste also made the officials happy: Each of them supposedly received P32,000 for "expenses," and more from other sources.

But this blew up the cost of the one-day seminar to more than P30 million, and extended the stay of the participants to five days.

There were only two regular flights to Palawan, and seminar participants had to jostle for seats in these flights for the trip, which was supposedly paid from Manila barangay funds.

Manila Mayor Joselito Atienza said at the airport that Palawan is a model of cleanliness.

"This is a model for the whole country (and we want) to study how they are able to maintain cleanliness," he said.

But he denied that the trip was part of his reelection campaign. He said the seminar was done every year—in Cebu last year and in Baguio in the previous six years. Next year, they plan to go to Cagayan de Oro, he added.

He said the seminar was part of the "Lakbay-Aral" program and was funded from the barangays' financial allotment for training and education.

Seminar participants said that on Sunday, they spent their free time in one of the resorts, which they hired for themselves for the day.

Benz hits 3 youths; 1 killed

A MOTORCYCLE ride home from a party turned tragic for three young passengers when a Mercedes Benz rammed into them early yesterday morning in Pasay City, killing one of them and sending the two others to the hospital.

Dead was student Karen Lacana, 18, a resident of Hizon Street, Barangay Bangkal, Makati City. Lacana was declared dead on arrival at the Pasay City General Hospital.

Her seriously injured companions were identified as Jimbels Medina, 19, of Laging Handa, Villaruel, Pasay City, and Jovies Estrella, 18, of Villa Barbara Street, Pasay City.

SPO1 Alberto Ignacio of the Pasay City Traffic Division said the three were close friends and had just come from a birthday party. They were on board a Kawasaki motorcycle driven by Medina.

Alcuin Papa

Money shop man robbed, slain

THREE holdup men on Monday shot and killed a messenger of a money changing shop in Ermita, Manila, taking away more than P5 million cash the messenger and a companion were transporting.

Jack Chiong, 45, a stay-in employee of the Farniza Money Changer store on P. Faura Street in Ermita, was pronounced dead on arrival at the Philippine General Hospital. He had several gunshot wounds.

SPO2 Alfredo Salazar said Chiong and another messenger, Rakib Alim, 25, were on board separate motorcycles when three men stopped them at the corner of P. Burgos Drive and Victoria Street, just across the Mehan Garden, at about 4 p.m.

Chiong and Alim had just come from a bank in Binondo and were carrying a total of P5.1 million in two bags. They were supposed to bring the money to Farniza, which is owned by one Edgar Malli.

Jerome Aning

14 foreigners in stock fraud flee

FOURTEEN foreigners, including 11 British nationals, who were arrested in January for stock market fraud fled the Philippines a day after they posted bail, justice officials said yesterday.

The 11 Britons, a Canadian, a Czech and an Italian were indicted by the Department of Justice in a Manila court on Feb. 22 for trading in securities without a license.

They posted bail of P40,000 for each count of fraud, and fled the next day on a flight to Hong Kong, the officials said.

Raul Francia, a spokesman with the DOJ, told Reuters the 14 managed to flee the Philippines using voluntary deportation orders issued by the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation.

It turned out, he said, that after the 14 were arrested in January, immigration officials found that all their visas had expired.

As a result, even before court proceedings on the fraud case started, immigration authorities had readied deportation orders, he said.

Senior state prosecutor Archimedes Manabat of the DOJ told the court on Feb. 22 that he found enough evidence to indict the 14 foreigners.

They were indicted and then released on bail and subsequently fled.

The case had been hailed as an early legal victory for the government of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, who has pledged to combat corruption to shore up business confidence.

Yesterday, Manabat told Reuters he was not aware that the 14 foreigners had left the country. He said it was only four days after the indictment, or on Feb. 26, that he filed a request with a local court for hold-departure orders to be issued against the 14.

By then, the suspects had left the country. Eight days later, the hold-departure orders had still not been issued.

"If they cannot be subpoenaed for arraignment, the case will be archived," Manabat said.

Reuters

An accident waiting to happen

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad

WRITING is very easy, according to the immortal Red Smith. All you've got to do is sit before the typewriter and wait until blood and sweat come out of your forehead.

But watching a big boxing match could be a lot easier. All you've got to do is be at ringside, don't be late, then wait for the main protagonists to slug it out.

Yes, watching big fights is great. That's if you did not have to report on the title bout yourself.

You see, a lot of people envy sportswriters. Because these guys at the press row could travel far and wide, then be there where the big action is, rain or shine.

Agree. I plead guilty to all these happy accusations.

***

But, listen to this buddy, for this comes from a bugger who had been there at ringside, free of charge, often enough.

I watched a championship bout turn into a train accident.

This happened on Friday in an arid, far-flung province of Thailand.

Do believe what I had to report that the fall of Malcolm Tuñacao in the fiery hands of a raging Thai warrior was a nightmare, with our boy pinned, crushed and crying under the merciless wheels of a locomotive.

Tuñacao has definitely left an ugly legacy with his worthless stand in Thailand last week.

Able boxing chronicler Nick Giongco of Today, who turned 31 on Monday, pointed it out precisely when he noted that it was the first time a Filipino world boxing champ lost his crown in less than a round.

Tuñacao's execution, to quote Bob Considine, was short, precise, merciless.

***

The first big blow, a sledgehammer right to the temple, visibly shook Tuñacao down to his socks.

Tuñacao, sensing trouble, answered with a left straight to Pongsaklek's nose. The Thai did not budge.

They squared off. Tuñacao, trapped against the ropes near his corner, then got slammed with a thunderbolt right to the head. He toppled over and lay motionless for a second before flipping back on his feet.

I knew it was all over by then. Tuñacao stood up from that first fall merely out of instinct.

Two more knockdowns, the third and final one coming at 2:44 of the first round, punctuated the most hideous defeat by a Filipino world champ in a foreign ring.

***

I was at ringside in wintry Tokyo, together with Al Mendoza, when a very lean Koji Kobayashi knocked out Filipino Frank Cedeno in the second round to wrest the world flyweight crown in January 1983.

I was analyzing for television when Luisito Espinosa fell down on his knees and was stopped by Israel Contreras in five rounds at the Araneta Coliseum in October 1991.

I was also witness to the foul manhandling suffered by Dodie Boy Peñalosa in the hands of Chang Ho Choi of Korea also at Araneta.

Oh, I have had more than my share of Filipino ring triumphs and tragedies.

But I was most appalled by Tuñacao's shattering setback.

Why? Because, all the while, the fighter and his trainers had succeeded in making us believe that Tuñacao was in the best of health and would, therefore, be equal to the challenge.

***

To repeat, Tuñacao had no business being inside the championship ring on Friday.

He should have been made to rest in a convalescent home, if not in a hospital, with his shaky status.

After Tuñacao had ballooned to over 120 pounds, he was squeezed murderously dry in order to make the 112-pound limit in only four days.

That happens only in comic book tales, said Dr. Nasser Cruz of the Games and Amusements Board. He said only the likes of Superman would have survived the inhuman ordeal.

Cruz said they had checked Tuñacao's weight on the eve of his departure for Thailand and found nothing wrong with the fighter.

Tuñacao's manager, Rex Wakee Salud, confided to me he could have gone to Bangkok much earlier and prevented his boxer from losing grip of his big appetite.

Salud, without passing on the blame, said he got stalled in Manila to help work out the trip of top Filipino boxing authorities whose presence was needed in Thailand in order to save Tuñacao from being cheated.

***

As had been reported here previously, elders in the Tuñacao advance group bared they could not turn down invitations from the Thai promoters because the hosts would refuse to release their allowances if they did not attend the parties.

Tuñacao all too willingly fell into the trap.

Now, it's easy to surmise Tuñacao could have actually lost to the weighing scales.

But, all things considered, it's a big wonder if Tuñacao could have saved his crown even if he had been in the best of health during the title bout.

Any serious student of boxing would have been amazed at the tremendous improvement of the Thai challenger who only a few years back lost to local journeyman Gerry Pahayahay.

In fact, I can't remember having recently seen such quick, sure, solid punches as the ones Pongsaklek had thrown with lightning speed to stop Tuñacao.

***

Anyway, after Tuñacao wrested the WBC flyweight crown from Medgoen 3-K Battery last May, Thai boxing authorities wasted no time. They called in Pongsaklek, elevated him from a junior to a full flyweight, and honed him up to chase and reclaim the lost world flyweight crown.

There was a serious study and dissection of Tuñacao's strength and weaknesses. The Thais kept re-running the tapes of Tuñacao's two title fights, against Medgoen and Japan's Celes Kobayashi.

Here at home, there was hardly any effort to dig into the style and newfound worth of the Thai challenger.

While they could have studied the opponent, Filipino authorities allowed themselves to be mystified by the short, boyish Thai fighter.

But over there in Bangkok, it was obvious concerned parties relied on scientific data, not to mention the cooperation and efforts of a strong boxing commission, to prepare everything for the crown offensive.

It would indeed be an understatement to say that Pongsaklek, as most other Thai world champs, are products of a sane and solid boxing system.

Tuñacao entered the ring on Friday ready and willing to grope in the dark.

He did try to run away after he got hurt. But it was all too late. His wily, well-prepared Thai foe had already plugged all possible escape routes.

In short, the Tuñacao tragedy was an accident waiting to happen, even before the opening bell.

PALACE NAMES OIC

LRTA nominee hits 'demolition job'

FORMER general manager of Metro Inc. Moises Tolentino Jr. said the allegations by employees of the state-run Light Rail Transit Authority (LRTA) contained in an open letter to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo were "pure lies" and a "demolition job."

Tolentino reacted to the open letter even as the Office of the President, through Executive Secretary Renato de Villa, yesterday announced the appointment of Enrico Garcia as LRTA officer in charge, in the place of Antonio San Luis.

Garcia was the LRTA's operations and engineering manager.

In the letter, LRTA employees objected to Tolentino's appointment as head of the mass transport system and they alleged, among others, that during his term, "the number of employees working for Metro ballooned to unreasonable proportions, causing the governments hundreds of millions in unnecessary expenditures and wastage because of the patronage system practised by management."

Tolentino said these allegations were "utterly baseless" and "pure lies" and came about after his name was submitted as a nominee for LRTA chair.

"I categorically deny these allegations," Tolentino said in a statement. "They are pure lies and utterly baseless. The LRTA employees now manning Metro are new employees who knew nothing about Metro."

He pointed out that during his four-year term, "effectively in place was the freeze-hiring policy for government owned corporations."

"No new employee was permitted to be hired and I made no hiring except the few replacements for critical positions vacated by either resigned or dismissed employees," he explained. "Even this had to pass approval by LRTA."

He said "not a single new position was created" during his term. Commission on Audit reports for 1997, 1998 and 1999 would bear him out, he said.

Transportation and Communication secretary Pantaleon Alvarez was said to have recommended Tolentino to head the LRTA.

The employees also objected to the appointment of San Luis, an Estrada appointee, in a holdover capacity.

San Luis himself was said to have initiated a petition to Malacañang for his retention as LRTA chief.

Tolentino also denied another allegation in the open letter, that the results of the technical evaluation during biddings had been partial to certain parties. He said the LRTA and not Metro Inc. conducted all biddings for all major projects for the LRT Line 1.

Metro "had no control on the final results of the biddings," he said.

He said the company he managed was limited only to the procurement of office supplies and of locally available parts, which were very few.

Metro was only guided by standards contained in the maintenance manual provided by the original suppliers, he said.

Tolentino said it was difficult to answer general allegations that he was responsible for the problems that had bugged the LRTA.

"As there are no particulars, it is difficult to answer this allegation," he said. "For sure, there were always problems. Much of the problems, however, were systemic over which Metro had no control. The cost reimbursement system was the very reason the original management company, Meralco Transit Organization Inc., had to give up the concession."

He said he had initiated a program for fostering quality service that was already well underway before the LRTA strike.

Metro's contract was terminated after the July 2000 strike that crippled the LRT operations. The strike was staged against the LRT administration and the government in general.

Metro was the private firm that was operating under the LRTA.

With a report by Donna S. Cueto

Burned ...

(From page A21)

used to be in the EPD order of battle after he allegedly got involved in drug pushing.

Dizon said drug syndicate members might have killed Melendrez because of a botched drug deal.

Police said they received unconfirmed reports that Melendrez was carrying a big amount of shabu when he was abducted.

Supt. Federico Castro, EPD Intelligence Division chief, said he sent his men to arrest Melendrez but they could not locate him.

"We tried to collar Melendrez, but we could not find him, even in his usual hangouts in Pasig City," Castro said.

He said he believed Melendrez could have gotten wind of his pending arrest.

PNP Crime Laboratory officials are awaiting results of blood and dental examinations conducted on the two bodies before releasing the cadavers to their families.

The bodies of Melendrez and Silverio were found handcuffed inside a burning Toyota Tamaraw Revo at the Airmen's Village in Barangay Sampaloc 3, Dasmariñas, Cavite at 4 a.m. on Feb. 28.

It was initially feared that the bodies were those of missing public relations man Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Manuel Corbito.

Police said the two men were first stabbed—Melendrez thrice and Silverio seven times—before the vehicle was set on fire.

QC trees saved...

(From page A21)

firms and organizations and the rest would be transferred to parks.

"Not a single tree will be murdered," said Datumanong, a professed "pro-life" advocate.

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo witnessed the signing of the deal among the Department of Public Works and Highways, the Metro Manila Development Authority, Earth Savers Movement, and Global Legislators' Organization for a Balanced Environment (Globe) Philippines led by Rep. Heherson Alvarez.

Representatives of non-government organizations spearheading the movement "Adopt-a-Tree, Protect the Metro Manila Parks" said it all began when Inquirer columnist Neal H. Cruz protested the cutting down of the mostly 50- to 90-year-old mahogany trees lining the broad avenue.

Originally, the construction of an interchange at the corner of Edsa and Quezon Avenue would have affected a total of 546 trees—192 of which would have been cut, 248 transplanted elsewhere, and 106 retained at the site.

But all that changed when Datumanong called on all public works employees "to have more respect for the trees" when they carry out infrastructure programs across the country.

Among the groups that offered to "adopt" the trees are the Manila Memorial Park, the Alabang Hills Village Association, the Boy Scouts of the Philippines, the Rotary International and the Inner Wheels International.

Three cop killers hunted

POLICE are hunting down the three men who shot dead a retired Manila policeman in Pasig City yesterday.

Supt. John Sosito, the Pasig City police chief, identified the victim as SPO4 Eduardo Benavidez, 60, a retired member of the Western Police District traffic bureau.

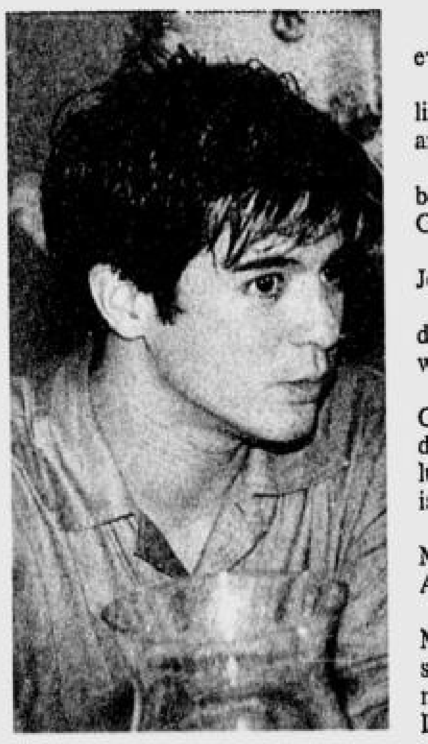
Benavidez suffered several gunshot wounds and died while being brought to the Medical City in Mandaluyong City.

Sosito said Benavidez had just boarded his private jeep (CLY 548) when the three men appeared and shot him thrice in San Manuel, Barangay Kapitolyo at about 5 a.m.

The gunmen fled on board their gold-colored 1991 Toyota Corolla, police said. *Agnes E. Donato*

Aga-Charlene wedding...

(From page A21



MUHLACH

The honeymoon would be "forever," he said.

"I've never been so happy in my life," he added. "I'm getting married and I'm so in love."

He, however, is mum about the budget for his altar date with Gonzales.

The reception will be in Camp John Hay.

Exclusive coverage of the wedding will be made by ABS-CBN, where Muhlach is a contract star.

Muhlach, 32, said he and Gonzales chose May 28 as their wedding date because the number is a lucky one for both of them. Gonzales is turning 28 in May.

May 28 is also the birthday of Muhlach's mother, Anita Aquino.

The whirlwind romance of Muhlach and Gonzales started seven months ago on the set of the now-defunct ABS-CBN sitcom "Oki Doki Doc."

They will have seven pairs of sponsors, including action king Fernando Poe Jr., Lipa City Mayor Vilma Santos, film producers Vic del Rosario and Lily Monteverde, Atong Tan of Jollibee, former Speaker Jose de Venecia and ABS-CBN executives Gabby Lopez, Freddie Garcia and Charo Santos-Concio.

Designer Joe Salzar will create the bridal grown of Gonzales, as well as the baby pink gowns of the entourage. JC Buendia will make the suits for the men.

Igi Boy, Muhlach's 13-year-old love child with actress Janice de Belen, will be one of the best men. The others are Muhlach's brother Albert and close friend Joeben Reyes.

Muhlach's sister Arlene will be the matron of honor. Gonzales' friends from the United States —Raiza Roxas and Jerevie Hughes — are the bridesmaids.

MISSING

Eduardo B. del Rosario, 69, of 61 Calmito Road, Justinville Subd., Bacoor, Cavite, has been missing since Feb. 23. He is 5-foot-3, with a small build. He was last seen in blue walking shorts and a white T-shirt. Information on his whereabouts may be relayed to his family at (046) 471-9097 and (046) 970-2623.

SM CINEMA GUIDE

SM Dial-A-Movie • Tel. 633-9999

NOW SHOWING

SM CITY BACOOR 4173808

1	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
2	DOLBY SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	MS. CONGENIALITY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
5	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	DRACULA 2000
6	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
7	DOLBY SURROUND	HANNIBAL
8	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE

SM CENTERPOINT 7149522 • 7161416

1	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
3	DTS	MS. CONGENIALITY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
6	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CAST AWAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
8	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
9	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
10	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME

SM CITY FAIRVIEW 9350749

1	DOLBY SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
2	DOLBY SURROUND	DEMON GATE
3	DOLBY SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
4	DOLBY DIGITAL	MS. CONGENIALITY
5	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
6	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
7	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
8	DOLBY SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
9	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	CAST AWAY
11	DOLBY SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
12	DOLBY SURROUND	TUHOG

SM CITY MANILA 5239240

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	MS. CONGENIALITY
2	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
3	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
4	DOLBY SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
5	DOLBY DIGITAL	PAY IT FORWARD
6	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	CAST AWAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
8	DOLBY SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
9	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
10	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN
11	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
12	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW

GUADALUPE COMM'L CTR 8820950

1	ULTRA SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

SM MEGAMALL 6331901 • 6329401

1	DOLBY DIGITAL	HANNIBAL
2	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
3	DOLBY DIGITAL	DRACULA 2000
4	DTS	MS. CONGENIALITY
5	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
6	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
7	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
8	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
9	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
10	DOLBY SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
12	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

SM CITY NORTH EDSA 9295452

1	DOLBY SURROUND	HOSTAGE
2	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	CAST AWAY
4	DOLBY SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
5	DOLBY SURROUND	MS. CONGENIALITY
6	DOLBY SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
7	DTS	HANNIBAL
8	DOLBY DIGITAL	DRACULA 2000
9	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
10	DOLBY SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
11	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	TUHOG
12	DOLBY SURROUND	FAMILY MAN

SM SOUTHMALL 8066888 • 8066782

1	ULTRA SURROUND	ALMOST FAMOUS
2	ULTRA SURROUND	HANNIBAL
3	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	MS. CONGENIALITY
4	ULTRA SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
5	ULTRA SURROUND	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
6	ULTRA SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
7	ULTRA SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
8	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	DRACULA 2000
9	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY
10	ULTRA SURROUND	HOSTAGE

TUTUBAN CENTER 2514302

1	ULTRA SURROUND	DRACULA 2000
2	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HOSTAGE
3	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LIVE SHOW

SM CEBU 2313876

1	DOLBY SURROUND	PAY IT FORWARD
2	ULTRA SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3	ULTRA SURROUND	NURSE BETTY
4	ULTRA SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
5	ULTRA SURROUND	IKA - 7 GLORYA
6	ULTRA SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
7	DOLBY SURROUND	HANNIBAL

SM ILOILO 3209422

1	ULTRA SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
2	ULTRA SURROUND	WHAT WOMEN WANT
3	ULTRA SURROUND	TUSONG TWOSOME
4	ULTRA SURROUND	IKA - 7 GLORYA
5	ULTRA SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
6	ULTRA SURROUND	PROOF OF LIFE
7	ULTRA SURROUND	102 DALMATIANS
8	ULTRA SURROUND	CAST AWAY

SM PAMPANGA 7128015

1	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	HANNIBAL
2	DOLBY DIGITAL EX	DRACULA 2000
3	DOLBY SURROUND	WOMAN ON TOP
4	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	HOSTAGE
5	SYNTHESIZED SURROUND	LIVE SHOW
6	DOLBY SURROUND	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Movies are subject to change without prior notice.

AYALA CINEMAS

NOW SHOWING

YOUR 24-HOUR LINK TO ALL AYALA CINEMAS 729 - 7777
reserve seats through www.sureseats.com

GLORIETTA 1 (formerly QUAD)

1 LIVE SHOW
2 MS. CONGENIALITY
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 HOSTAGE

GLORIETTA 4 (All Digital Sound)

1 ALMOST FAMOUS — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2 DRACULA 2000 — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 MS. CONGENIALITY THX — in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 INNOCENCE (Phil. Premiere) — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND — Art Film
5 FAMILY MAN — In DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6 HANNIBAL — In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7 CAST AWAY — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1 LIVE SHOW — In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2 MS. CONGENIALITY — In SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3 HANNIBAL — In DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4 SOON TO OPEN Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1 MS. CONGENIALITY THX — In DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2 HANNIBAL — In DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3 DRACULA 2000 — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4 ALMOST FAMOUS — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5 LIVE SHOW — In DTS DIGITAL SOUND

MMTA

METRO MANILA THEATERS ASSOCIATION

MOVIE GUIDE

NOW SHOWING

Filinvest FESTIVAL CINEMA
(Muntinlupa) tel 850.3571 or 72
1 (DDS) DRACULA 2000
2 (SDDS) ALMOST FAMOUS
3 (DTS) MS. CONGENIALITY
4 (GOLD DTS) HANNIBAL
5 (GOLD DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY
6 (GOLD SDDS) WOMAN ON TOP
7 (GOLD DOLBY) CAST AWAY
8 [illegible] KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
9 [illegible] HOSTAGE
10 [illegible] LIVE SHOW

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2
3 (DTS) HOSTAGE
4
5
6 (DTS)
Golden Pearl THX

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315
1 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY
2 (DTS) KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 LIVE SHOW

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 DRACULA 2000
3 LIVE SHOW

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 HOSTAGE
3 LIVE SHOW
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL) MS. CONGENIALITY
5 DRACULA 2000

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 RESERVE
3 HOSTAGE
4 LIVE SHOW
5 MS. CONGENIALITY
6 HANNIBAL
7 DRACULA 2000
8 OBJECT OF OBSESSION

Uniwide Metromall
(Las Piñas) tel. 873.5606 loc. 1074
1 WATCH 3 MOVIE FOR ONLY P30.00
2 ARAYY
3 RED PLANET
4 SUMMER HEAT
5 –
6

Uniwide Coastal Mall
(Parañaque) tel 879.0001 loc. 2152
1 WATCH 3 MOVIE FOR ONLY P30.00
2 READY TO RUMBLE
3 GOSSIP
4 KANGKONG

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007
1 HOSTAGE
2 CAST AWAY

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC.
tel 930.9515
1 RESERVE
2 LIVE SHOW
3 HOSTAGE

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
A

JC Cinema
(Parañaque) tel 825.8626
1 BLONDIE
3

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8568
1 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
2 OBJECT OF OBSESSION
3 WOMAN ON TOP
4 HOSTAGE
5 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
6 LIVE SHOW
7 (DTS) HANNIBAL
8 (SDDS) ALMOST FAMOUS
9 (DOLBY) MS. CONGENIALITY

Caloocan
tel 362.3508
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 HOSTAGE
5
6

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781
1 HOSTAGE
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 (SDDS) MS CONGENIALITY
5 TUSONG TWOSOME
6 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
7 (DTS) HANNIBAL
8 OBJECT OF OBSESSION
9 TUHOG

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083
1 (DTS) MS. CONGENIALITY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 TUSONG TWOSOME
5 (SDDS) HANNIBAL
6 HOSTAGE
7 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
8 OBJECT OF OBSESSION

Ortigas
tel 656.6795
1 TUSONG TWOSOME
2 HANNIBAL
3 (DTS) HOSTAGE
4 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
5 (SDDS) DRACULA 2000
6 (DOLBY) LIVE SHOW
7 (DOLBY) MS CONGENIALITY

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888
1 LIVE SHOW

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724
Dilson LIVE SHOW
Lords BODY SHOT
Jennet LIVE SHOW

Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856
1 LIVE SHOW
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 DRACULA 2000
4 MS CONGENIALITY

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215
1
3 LIVE SHOW

Super Cinerama
(Manila) tel 733.4226 or 733.4238
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 DRACULA 2000
3 HOSTAGE
4 LIVE SHOW
5 MS CONGENIALITY

Divisoria Mall
(Manila) tel 244.4560 or 244.4619
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 HOSTAGE
4
5
6 DRACULA 2000

Baclaran LRT Cinema
tel 512.0115 or 512.0116
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DRACULA 2000

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 (DTS) DRACULA

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 (DTS) LIVE SHOW
3 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
4 WOMAN ON TOP

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276
1 (SDDS) KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 BLONDIE
3 HOSTAGE
4 (DTS) LIVE SHOW

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202
1 (DOLBY) DRACULA 2000
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 (DTS) LIVE SHOW
4 BLONDIE
5 HOSTAGE

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DRACULA

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 LIVE SHOW
3 DRACULA

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311
1 CAST AWAY
2 HOSTAGE
3

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736
1 DRACULA 2000
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376
1 HOSTAGE
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 LIVE SHOW
4 OBJECT OF OBSESSION

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 243.2783
1 (DTS) KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
2 (DTS) LIVE SHOW

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385
1 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657
1 HOSTAGE
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 DRACULA 2000

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790
1 FAMILY MAN
2 102 DALMATIANS
3 HOSTAGE
4 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY

Berma
tel 879.2168
1
2

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269
1 HOSTAGE
2 LIVE SHOW
3 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
4 DRACULA 2000

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03
1 (DOLBY EX) HANNIBAL
2 KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
3 DRACULA 2000
4 (DTS EX) WOMAN ON TOP

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

THX DOLBY dts SDDS

FASHION ANGELS
BEAUTY PAGEANT 2001
E-MAIL US AT
FASHION ANGELS 2001@YAHOO COM.

FOR INQUIRIES
PLS. CALL
734-5012

a special presentation

Uncut version . . .

(From page A24)

time.

"Upon consultation with our director, **Rowell Santiago**, and creative consultant **Deo Endrinal**, I decided to pack up the guesting. I felt at that time it was the best thing to do, since I didn't want to be unfair to both Sharon and Aga and with the rest of the cast for not being able to come up with a well-prepared episode that they both deserve."

Tribute to women filmmakers

WOMEN power is evident again this week, when the 12th International Women's Festival pays tribute to women filmmakers by screening their works at the UP Film Center.

The filmfest is made possible by Star Cinema, Sky-Jemah Films, Viva Internatinal Pictures, 20th Century Fox, Searchlight Pictures, Solar Films and Columbia Pictures.

"How Stella Got Her Groove Back," **Terry McMillan**'s novel about the reawakened passions of a black woman, will be screened at 4 p.m. today. **Angela Bassett** plays the heroine in the film, with **Taye Diggs** as the leading man.

At 7 p.m., "Holy Smoke" is the creative collaboration of sisters **Jane** and **Anna Campion**, who are among the pride of New Zealand. "Titanic" star **Kate Winslet** leads the cast of "Holy Smoke," about a young woman who becomes spiritually fired up upon meeting an Indian sufi, until her family hires a pro (**Harvey Keitel**) to deprogram her.

Thankfully, the lineup is not all Hollywood and includes local films megged by lady directors.

Tomorrow, March 8, **Joyce Bernal**'s "Tunay na Tunay, Get Mo? Gets Ko?," starring **Robin Padilla** and **Jolina Magdangal**, will be screened at 4 p.m. It will be followed at 7 p.m. by "Nurse Betty," the film which earned for **Renee Zellwegger** a Golden Globe best actress award.

Laurice Guillen's multi-awarded film, "Tanging Yaman," will be shown March 9, 7 p.m.

Oscar best actress **Hilary Swank** stars in "Boys Don't Cry" (March 10, 3 p.m.) and **Julia Roberts** in "Erin Brokovich" (6 p.m.)

Patricia Rozema's "Mansfield Park" will be shown on Sunday, March 11, 4 p.m. The film based on **Jane Austen**'s novel, exposes the author's expertise on human nature, particularly that of women.

The closing film is "Woman on Top," starring **Penelope Cruz** and directed by **Fina Torres**, which rolls March 11, 6 p.m.

ROBINSONS MOVIE WORLD

STATE-OF-THE-ART CINEMAS
e-mail:htc@netasia-mla.net
http://www.robinsonsmovieword.com

NOW SHOWING

Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ERMITA
536-7809-14

1. MS. CONGENIALITY
2. HANNIBAL
3. LIVE SHOW
4. ALMOST FAMOUS
5. KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
6. DRACULA 2000
7. HOSTAGE

GALLERIA

UNDER RENOVATION

Robinsons Movieworld aims to bring a new dimension to your viewing experience 10 brand new cinemas equipped with THX, DTS, SDDS, DOLBY DIGITAL soundsystem.

IMUS
(046)875-3838

1. HANNIBAL
2. LIVE SHOW
3. DRACULA 2000
4. MS. CONGENIALITY
5. KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
6. HOSTAGE

BACOLOD
(034)441-0453

1. FAMILY MAN
2. 102 DALMATIANS
3. TUSONG TWOSOME
4. PROOF OF LIFE
5. HOSTAGE
6. NURSE BETTY

DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	LIVE SHOW
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	MS. CONGENIALITY
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	DRACULA 2000
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	HANNIBAL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	ALMOST FAMOUS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	HOSTAGE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	MS. CONGENIALITY
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
MIRAMAR	GATAS / MY PRIVATE TEACHER
ODEON	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
ODEON-2	MS. CONGENIALITY
ROBEN	HOSTAGE
TANDEM-1	SA IYONG MGA HAPLOS
TANDEM-2	IKA - 7 GLORYA
TIMES	BLAIRWITCH 2 / GOSSIP
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	ANAK NG YAKUSA
ACT-2	ANAK NG KANO
ACT-3	ALIPIN NG TUKSO
ACT-4	TURN ON
CORONET-2	LIVE SHOW
QUEZON-1	HANIBAL
REMAR	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
REMAR-2	HOSTAGE
CUBAO	
OCEAN SUPERAMA	LIVE SHOW
OCEAN CINEMA-A	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
OCEAN CINEMA-B	BLONDIE
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	MS. CONGENIALITYL
CINEMA-2	ALMOST FAMOUS
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-54091 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	HOSTAGE
CINEMA-2	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
CINEMA-3	LIVE SHOW
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	CAST AWAY
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	OBJECT OF OBSESSION
CINEMA-6	TUSONG TWOSOME
CINEMA-7	BLONDIE
CINEMA-8	DEMON GATE
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	HANNIBAL
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	MS. CONGENIALITY
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	ALMOST FAMOUS
CINEMA-12	DRACULA 2000
CINEMA-14	HOSTAGE
CINEMA-15	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
LORES	
CINEMA-2	KAAWAY HANGGANG HUKAY
CINEMA-3	HOSTAGE
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	MISS CONGENIALITY
CINEMA-2	ALMOST FAMOUS
CINEMA-3	HANNIBAL
CINEMA-4	DRACULA 2000
CINEMA-5	PAY IT FORWARD
CINEMA-6	MISS CONGENIALITY

LOUIE'S CINEMA

LUCAS FILM THX
It Will Change the Way You Hear and See Movies Forever

NOW SHOWING

Ms. CONGENIALITY
(PG-13 / RT 1:47)
Comedy
Sandra Bullock
Benjamin Bratt
Michael Caine

March 7 - Wednesday

6:05 PM - CLOSED
8:30 PM - Ms. Congeniality
10:50 PM - Ms. Congeniality

Watch out for the 4th issue of Pelikula: A Journal of Philippine Cinema featuring WOMEN IN CINEMA coming out in March!

LRP Foundation Inc. Louie's THX Cinema Bldg., Mile Long Compound Amorsolo St., Makati City Tel. No. 751-20-10
Fax 892-3449
www.louiesthx.com.ph

Hear the Difference, Feel the Excitement

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Going topless

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

WHAT is this fetish we have for breast exposure in the movies? To some young actresses and many movie voyeurs, it's the defining act that firmly indicates a formerly "sweet" starlet's decision to "go bold."

When **Rica Peralejo** let it all hang out, (at least above the belly button) in "Balahibong Pusa" she served notice that she had decided to become "palaban" enough to challenge **Joyce Jimenez**'s sexy reign over at Viva Films.

Right after that, she became a hot item, and it wasn't long before she was offered her own solo starrer, where she promised to bare even more than she had already done, just to show her appreciation to Viva for the big break it was lining up for her.

Mylene Dizon's own foray into "topless territory" was less unequivocal, however. She bared her breasts in "Gatas" not really to turn the voyeurs in the theater on, but to "do justice" to her role in the movie as a new, lactating mother and the wetnurse of a Japanese officer's baby (not to mention her own thirsty husband).

As a result of Mylene's equivocation, there has been no follow-up to her "baring" movie. But she's a good enough actress to achieve stardom without playing the movie industry's demeaning "daring and baring" game, so she should keep her clothes on and wait until it's really her time to shine.

Many years ago, it looked like young **Isabel Granada** was going to join the sexy nymphet parade, but she confounded the cynics by refusing to go topless.

She's been holding off for so long that we thought it would be for keeps, but recent reports have it that Isabel has finally "capitulated," and has agreed to play a sexy mermaid in her next flick.

She'll be going topless in some scenes, of course—after all, she sweetly rationalizes, isn't that what mermaids do in their natural habitat? Well, we guess!

As of this writing, other young and heretofore "sweet" starlets are also seriously contemplating whether it's time to give their stagnating careers a boost by going topless. One of them is **Assunta de Rossi**, who's out to out-sizzle Rica and Isabel in her forthcoming starrer.

If their sexy movies click with the voyeurs out there, the incipient topless trend could become an avalanche, and pretty soon, we could be up to our eyeballs in nubile breasts bared onscreen.

But other starlets aspiring for topless stardom should hold their horses and not start doing the striptease just yet. They should realize that a new MTRCB is in the process of being set up, and it's not yet clear what the new board's parameters are going to be.

Give it a few months or so for the dust of charge to settle. What if calls for a new moral order after People Power II will be heeded by some sectors of society?

That could lead to a tightening up of movie standards that would render moot and academic all attempts on some starlets' part to heat up and strip down their movie act.

In addition, take note of the fact that some established bold beauties have opted to keep their clothes on from here on in. Perhaps they know something you don't?

TV treats

THURSDAY, March 8 at 8:30 a.m. on Star Movies, "Nightmaster" stars **Nicole Kidman**, **Tom Jennings** and **Vince Martin**. In the romantic thriller, Kidman and her boyfriend belong to a group of students who play private night games. To her horror, Kidman discovers what happens when the games turn deadly.

At 9 p.m. on Star Movies, "Oscar Fever" spotlights the award-winning film, "Dead Poets Society." The movie won the Oscar for Best Screenplay, and was nominated for best picture, best director and best actor.

Robin Williams stars as a charismatic English professor who defies school authorities and disapproving parents in order to teach his students the need for self-expression and personal passion.

The students are played by gifted young actors led by **Ethan Hawke**, **Robert Sean Leonard** and **Josh Charles**.

Uncut version of 'Live Show' to be shown starting today

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

AFTER creating a stir because of its controversial scenes, "Live Show" will start its regular theater run today, March 7.

Director **Joey Reyes** assures audiences it will be the uncut version of his much talked-about film which will be shown. In no time at all in the several postponement of its playdate was "Live Show" subjected to any changes or editing.

Apparently, Direk Joey didn't want to compromise any scene in the film. The "Live Show" that will be shown in local screens is the same version which was exhibited before European audiences during the 50th Berlin Film Festival late last year.

"There have been no cuts made on it and we have no intentions of making any adjustments on the film," Reyes said.

It will be remembered that "Live Show" was scheduled for a Valentine's Day playdate, but the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board pointed out some objectionable scenes in the film, pending its classification.

Still, Regal Films and Direk Joey didn't want to sacrifice any of the scenes in the movie, which merited critical acclaim in Berlin.

But Regal Films recently got the green light from the censors to exhibit the film without cut. It was given an R-18 classification, which means it is restricted only to viewers 18 years old and above.

"Live Show" tackles the personal struggles of live sex act performers, a theme which has never been tackled on the big screen.

ABS-CBN says sorry to Sharon, Aga

ABS-CBN extends its apologies to its stars **Sharon Cuneta, Aga Muhlach, Roderick Paulate** and the cast of "Da Body en da Guard," who were inconvenienced by the unfortunate miscommunication between the production staff of the talk show and the comedy group of the network.

In a statement issued by ABS-CBN's public relations department, the network explained that the cast of "Da Body en da Guard" was scheduled to be interviewed live on "Sharon" on Feb. 25. However, the interview did not push through after a misunderstanding regarding script details which unduly hurt the stars concerned.

"ABS-CBN TV is greatly saddened that this unpleasant incident had to happen to its most treasured talents. The division and its executives hope that this explanation will put the issue to rest as they accept full responsibility for the incident."

Gia Garchitorena-Suyao, production manager of "Sharon," wrote a letter to **Ethel Ramos**, talent manager of Aga, citing the network's explanation to the incident.

"As production manager of 'Sharon,' it is my responsibility to oversee and ensure that all the areas in producing an episode is ironed out in collaboration with the whole staff. In this particular guesting of Aga Muhlach and **Joyce Jimenez**, a lot of miscommunication between the staff of 'Da Body en da Guard' and the staff of 'Sharon' happened.

"All of us were panicking and pressured because we wanted to produce a very good episode for our host, Sharon Cuneta, and, of course, Aga Muhlach, who would be guesting in the show for the first

UNCUT/A23

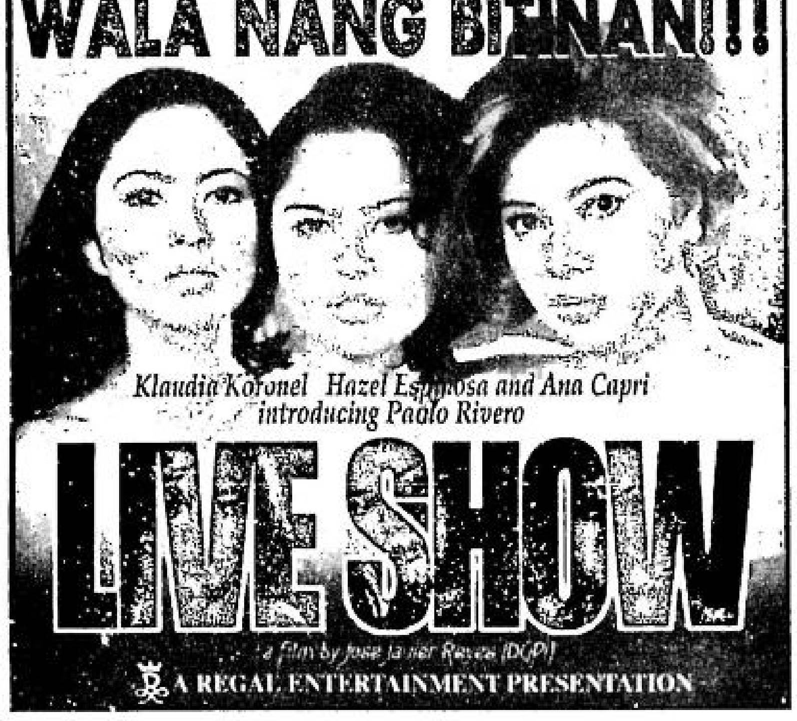
ANA Capri (left) and Klaudia Koronel sizzle onscreen in Joey Reyes' "Live Show."

MTRCB RATING ▶ R RESTRICTED | STRICTLY FOR ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted

AT LAST!!!

Palabas Na Ang Pinakahihintay Ng Lahat

WALA NANG BITINAN!!!



Klaudia Koronel Hazel Espinosa and Ana Capri
introducing Paolo Rivero
LIVE SHOW
a film by jose javier Reyes (DGPI)
A REGAL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTATION

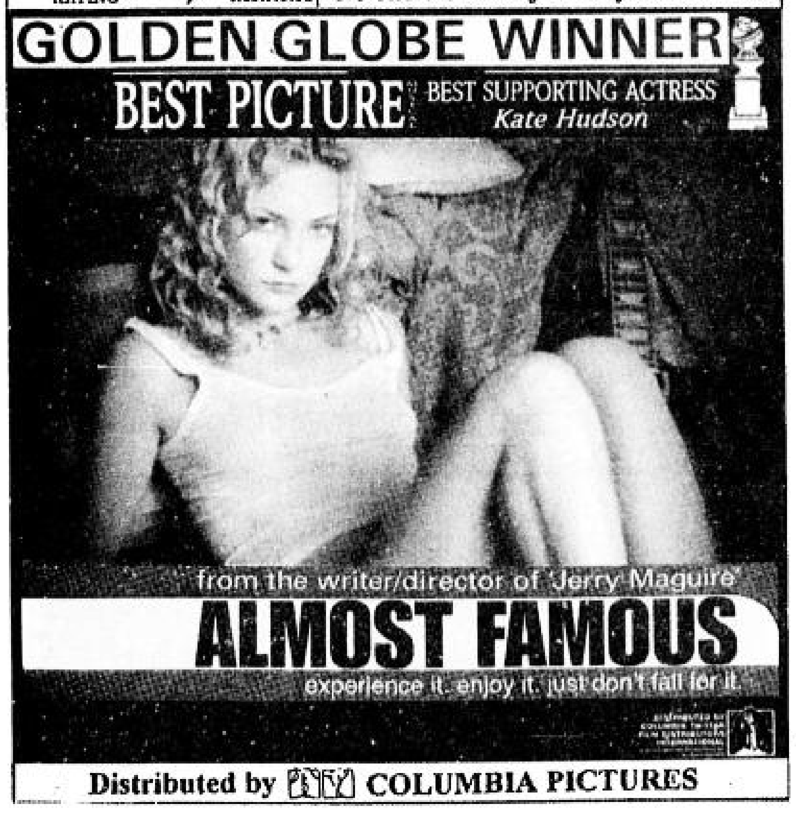
4 Oscar Nominations!

MUST - SEE MOVIE ROCKS SCREENS TODAY!

MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted | Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER

BEST PICTURE BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS Kate Hudson



from the writer/director of 'Jerry Maguire'
ALMOST FAMOUS
experience it. enjoy it. just don't fall for it.

Distributed by COLUMBIA PICTURES

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

1 MISS CONGENIALITY - G 11:20, 1:45, 4:10, 6:35, 9:00	2 ALMOST FAMOUS - R 18 11:00, 1:35, 4:10, 6:45, 9:20	3 HANNIBAL - R 18 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00
4 DRACULA 2000 - R 18 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00	5 PAY IT FORWARD - P 13 11:40, 2:15, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50	6 MISS CONGENIALITY - G 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

AYALA CINEMAS ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4 Art Film
NOW SHOWING

MTRCB RATING ▶ R Restricted | Strictly for ADULTS No one below 18 yrs. may be admitted.

Innocence

Julia Blake Charles Tingwell Terry Norris

A gentle film that evokes memories of young love that have ripened into full bloom.

"The best single film I saw in the entire Cannes Film Festival" — Roger Ebert & the movies

WINNER
Grand Prix des Ameriques & People's Choice Award
@2000 Montreal World Film Festival

Catch the LAST FEW WEEKS' RUN OF Miss Saigon
THE ORIGINAL BROADWAY MUSICAL
VERY SPECIAL OFFER FOR
Orchestra Section Seats
Feb 27 to Mar 25 performances
Balcony 1 & 2 seats are also available.
For inquiries, call
813 6022, 817 1350
813 6024, 894 0452
0918-9002168
0917-4239065
0917-8113284
0917-6136909
0917-8928184

Sandra Bullock
Michael Caine
Benjamin Bratt
and
Candice Bergen
SHE'S GOT A KILLER TO CATCH...
RIGHT AFTER THE SWIMSUIT COMPETITION.
Miss Congeniality

MTRCB RATING GP ALL AGES ADMITTED OPENS TODAY! mossimo

PIII's
for Php69,900
Twinhead
Elio!3000
STANDARD
☎637-1724

WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 7, 2001
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
B1
BUSINESS
RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ▨ CORRIE S. NARISMA, Assistant Editor

Baro de Manila®
by TOPPERS
WE ARE "TAILOR MADE" FOR YOU
AT HARRISON PLAZA
TEL. 522-6291

19 banks OK $740-M loan to gov't

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

FAVORABLE rates have allowed the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to conclude the first sovereign loan for the year worth $740 million with a syndicate of 19 banks.

As an indication of renewed investor interest since a new administration took over, the loan amount was $340 million more than the government target.

BSP Deputy Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said the loan agreement, the first to be forged under the Macapagal administration, would be signed by March 15.

Maturing in three years, the loan will carry an interest rate of 2.70 percentage points over the six-month London interbank offered rate (Libor) of 4.97 percent.

Analysts said the rate was reasonable compared to the $200-million national government borrowing last year that carried a rate of 4.20 percentage points over Libor.

Still, the rate was way above the BSP's $550-million borrowing a year ago at 1.19 percentage points over Libor.

Tetangco said the proceeds of the loan, originally planned at only $400 million, would pay off the BSP's maturing debts for the year worth $870 million. Of these, about $400 million was due last Feb. 20 and was paid using the country's dollar reserves.

Another $470 million will mature on April 8. This loan was tapped by the BSP three years ago under the term of former BSP Governor Gabriel Singson.

Tetangco said the new loan was re-priceable every six months. The pool will include 19 local and foreign banks including lenders from Japan, the United States and Europe.

"The facility was 1.85 times oversubscribed," said the BSP official.

Sources said the list of lenders included foreign banking giants HSBC, Citibank, Chase Manhattan, JP Morgan, Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi, ING Barings, Deutsche Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, Development Bank of Singapore, ANZ Bank, Sumitomo Bank, Sanwa Bank plus local giants Equitable PCI Bank, Metrobank, and Bank of the Philippine Islands.

HSBC will contribute $70 million while most banks will chip in $30 million to $50 million each.

"The substantial commitments received from a diverse group of banks are a concrete manifestation of the improved confidence of the international financial community in the Philippine economy," BSP Governor Rafael Buenaventura said.

Sources said the BSP might have to go back to the debt market to raise another $130 million in order to complete the amount it needed to retire maturing debts for the year.

Otherwise, the debt financing would make a dent on the country's gross international reserves, estimated at below $14 billion as of last month.

This year, the central bank wanted to raise the dollar reserves to $16 billion from a level of $15.01 billion last year.

BSP to let banks acquire equity in ailing firms

THE BANGKO Sentral ng Pilipinas will soon issue a circular allowing regular commercial banks to acquire a stake in borrower-companies in danger of foreclosure.

BSP Deputy Governor Alberto Reyes said the central bank was preparing guidelines for the new circular that would outline the terms of the new scheme similar to a debt-to-equity arrangement.

However, he said an exit mechanism should be firmed up because banks could not hold a stake in these non-financial companies for a long time. Reyes said the equity investment should only be temporary.

Before this new regulation, only universal banks or what BSP refers to as expanded commercial banks, could acquire a stake in companies engaged in non-allied undertakings or businesses not directly related to banking such as real estate and telecommunications or even steel production.

Universal banks are also allowed to go into "riskier undertakings" that could include a debt-to-equity conversion as part of restructuring efforts.

The new circular will allow regular commercial lenders of foreclosed Uniwide Group, Pilipino Telephone Co. or even National Steel Corp. to acquire a stake in these illiquid companies.

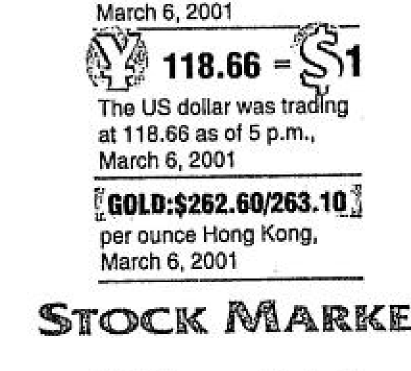
Creditors of National Steel have earlier offered to convert a portion of their exposure into equity but the government continued to negotiate for a buyer for the ailing steel firm.

The BSP official said the new policy of the central bank has a legal basis and a precedent was an earlier ruling on treasury shares that could be re-acquired by banks if these were used as collateral in defaulted loans.

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



GRAPHS BY ROBERT B. ANDRES

Peso-Dollar Rate

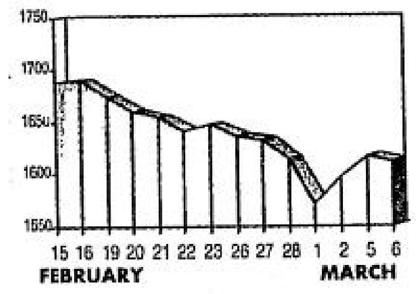
P 47.66 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
March 6, 2001

¥ 118.66 = $1
The US dollar was trading at 118.66 as of 5 p.m.,
March 6, 2001

GOLD:$262.60/263.10
per ounce Hong Kong,
March 6, 2001

STOCK MARKET

PSE Composite Index



(See stock market report on Page B2)

Shares end lower

SHARES finished lower yesterday as the market resumed consolidation after the mild euphoria that greeted a high court decision upholding the legitimacy of President Macapagal-Arroyo, traders said.

The 30-company Philippine Stock Exchange Index ended down 5.07 points, or 0.3 percent, at 1,611.47, after gaining 1.2 percent Monday. Turnover was P327.03 million, the lowest since Jan. 5 this year, and against Friday's total of

SHARES/ B3

Driving home the point of quality & customer service.

Test of Consistency & Setting Time

Blaine Test / Test of Fineness

Concrete Setting Time

Sieve Analysis

We anticipate and meet our customers' needs. This is among Lafarge's Principles of Action. No wonder we are the world leader in construction materials.

Today we're launching a new concept in customer service and product quality, the LAFARGE MOBILE TESTING LABORATORY. Equipped with standard testing tools, the mobile laboratory provides on-site testing services to cement end-users. And to make it even more responsive to your needs, the laboratory is manned by professionals and experts in cement technology to update end-users on cement specifications and proper cement mixes for every application.

The LAFARGE MOBILE TESTING LABORATORY. Always on the lookout for ways to serve you better.

LAFARGE ON-SITE LABORATORY TESTING SERVICES:

NORMAL CONSISTENCY AND SETTING TIME OF CEMENT
Using vicat apparatus, test for normal consistency determines plasticity / pliability of cement paste. Test for setting time of cement determines stiffening times of cement paste.

BLAINE TEST / CEMENT FINENESS
An air permeability apparatus is used to test fineness of cement which eventually affects the strength of concrete.

SETTING TIME OF CONCRETE
A concrete penetrometer determines setting time of concrete. It is useful to consider that the initial set represents approximately the time at which fresh concrete can no longer be properly handled and placed while final set approximates the time at which the hardening begins.

SIEVE ANALYSIS
Analyzes the proper grading of aggregates (sand and gravel) in preparation for designed mixes of concrete.

LAFARGE CEMENT Philippines
CUSTOMER SERVICE
MOBILE TESTING
LABORATORY
MOBILE TESTING LAB

WATCH OUT FOR US SOON!

Laboratory on-the-go.
Testing on-the-spot.

LAFARGE CEMENT Philippines " Partner ng Pinoy "

17th & 18th floor Chatham House Condominium 116 Valero cor. Herrera St., Salcedo Village, Makati City
Trunk line: 845-4202 to 04 Email: Marketing@ph.lafarge.com

Reynolds stock scandal reaches SEC

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE FATE of eight brokers tagged by the Philippine Stock Exchange as accessories to price manipulation involving shares of Reynolds Philippines Corp. is now in the hands of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The SEC's decision on this case—whether or not it upholds the decision of the PSE—is seen as a big test to the self-regulatory organization (SRO) status of the local bourse.

In a press conference yesterday, PSE president Ramon T. Garcia said one of the brokers—DBP Daiwa SB Capital Market Philippines—has appealed to the SEC to reverse the PSE's ruling on the RPC case.

The PSE's Business Conduct and Ethics Committee earlier decided to slap penalties on the eight brokers involved in the RPC fiasco. Four of the brokers filed a motion for reconsideration but this was likewise junked by the committee.

The seven other brokerage houses identified by the BCEC report were: First Orient Securities Inc., Guild Securities Inc., Intra-Invest Securities Inc., Jaka Securities Corp., Magnum International Securities Inc., Mark Securities Corp. and UPCC Securities Corp.

"DBP Daiwa brought the case to the SEC so we're awaiting what action will be taken by the SEC," Garcia said. "DBP Daiwa contested our decision on the claim that they didn't do any kiting or any price manipulation scheme."

Garcia said the SEC's decision would serve as a precedent ruling that would define the extent of the PSE's administrative powers.

"It will determine whether or not our decision is already final as far as administrative sanctions are concerned," he said.

To date, the trading of RPC shares remains suspended due to this price manipulation issue.

The BCEC earlier confirmed suspicions that the company was influencing the trading of its own shares. In a memorandum to the PSE's board of governors dated Oct. 25 last year, the BCEC said the bourse should penalize the brokers found to be in complicity with RPC in violation of Section 24-1 of the Securities Regulation Code, which prohibits transactions involving no change in the beneficial ownership of such security.

Aside from wash sales or trading without no change in beneficial ownership, the brokerage houses were also found as accessories in facilitating EQTrade, wherein shares were being farmed out by a single investor to different names and funneled through a broker to give an aura of active trading of a particular issue.

Although the scale of the alleged price manipulation attempts behind RPC was not as alarming as the controversial BW Resources Corp. case, market players said the apparent attempt to support RPC shares has been going on for quite sometime, even before the BW scandal erupted.

RPC was established in 1954 by Reynolds International Inc. of the United States. It manufactures and distributes aluminum sheets, foil and extruded sections used in the packaging, container, construction, appliance manufacturing and vehicle manufacturing industries.

Bourse junks RCBC appeal on Bankard disclosure row

THE PHILIPPINE Stock Exchange has junked a petition from Yuchengco-controlled Rizal Commercial Banking Corp. to reconsider its decision to slap penalties over the bank's alleged misleading disclosures on its acquisition of credit card firm Bankard Inc.

In a statement yesterday, the PSE said it had denied RCBC's motion for reconsideration of the penalties to be imposed for its failure to report a special power of attorney which effectively transferred beneficial ownership of Bankard from Equitable PCI Bank to its wholly owned subsidiary, RCBC Capital Corp.

The penalties, which could range from monetary fines to delisting, were also for deliberately submitting false statements denying the acquisition of beneficial ownership of Bankard, the PSE said.

RCBC, for its part, defended its position by explaining that it had misunderstood the PSE's query.

But the PSE insisted that the special power of attorney was a material fact, which should have been immediately disclosed.

The PSE likewise criticized the allegedly false disclosures made by the bank. "RCBC's denial of the Yuchengco group of companies' ownership of the controlling block of Bankard is contrary to what is contained in the special powers of attorney and the public pronouncements made in its paid ads," it said.

"The definition of beneficial ownership is explicit and clear. In order to avoid any ambiguity with its rules, the exchange always encourages open communication with all listed companies."

The PSE lamented that RCBC did not furnish it with sufficient material information on the transaction. It said parties to the transaction only disclosed on May 24 last year the signing of an agreement to sell 67 percent of the outstanding shares of Bankard to RCBC Capital.

The RCBC disclosure said the deal was subject to compliance of the parties with closing conditions which were completed only on Dec. 29, 2000.

The PSE said it had only recently discovered that under a "special power of attorney and irrevocable proxy," all the rights pertaining to the controlling block of Bankard—such as voting rights, the right to receive dividends and the exercise of management and control of operations—were transferred to RCBC Capital as early as May 24.

The PSE noted that the transfer or rights already constituted transfer of beneficial ownership which, under the law as well as the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PSE, must be properly disclosed.

DISCLOSURES

CEBU Holdings Inc. and Cebu Property Ventures & Development Corp. moved their annual stockholders' meetings from April 16 to April 30. Both will be held at the Grand Ballroom of Marriott Hotel in Cebu City with the former at 10 a.m. and the latter at 3 p.m. The record date for the two companies will be on March 15.

* * *

CONCRETE Aggregates Corp. will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on April 10, 8 a.m. at the 9/F boardroom of Ortigas and Co. Ltd. Partnership, Ortigas Avenue, Pasig City. Stockholders of record as of March 10 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

ZEUS Holdings Inc. announced the resignation of Micky Yong Mee Swee as company chair, president and director.

* * *

EQUITABLE PCI Bank will hold its annual stockholders' meeting on April 17, 3 p.m. at the Mezzanine Floor of Equitable PCI Bank Tower I, Makati City. Stockholders as of March 7 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

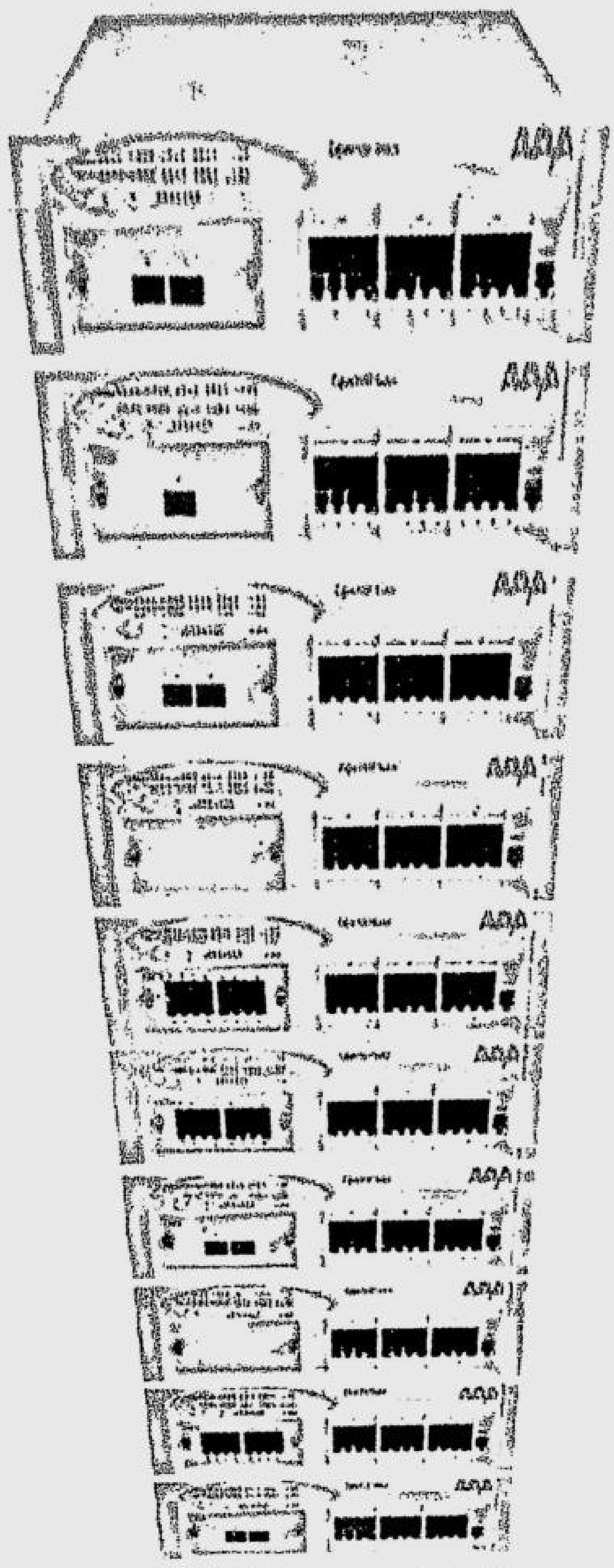
* * *

UNIVERSAL Robina Corp. will have its annual stockholders' meeting on June 1, 4 p.m. at the Manansala Ballroom of Manila Galleria Suites. Only stockholders of record as of May 2 will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting.

* * *

THE BOARD of **Globe Telecom Inc.** approved the increase in the number of its directors from 11 to 15. Also approved was the creation of new 20 million convertible preferred "B" shares with par value of P50 per share by increasing authorized capital stock from P11.25 billion to P12.25 billion. The board also elected Lim Chuan Poh as director to replace Tay Check Khoon. *Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research*

Stack it!



Building a network has never been so easy! The Cajun P330 Stackable Switching System provides port density, carrier–level reliability and building-block simplicity at a truly affordable price. Modular. Powerful. Build your network from the closet to the back–bone with the Cajun P330! To add more ports and multi-layer capability, simply plug in and carry on. This ease of expansion, RealNet™ Rules policy management, plus full standards compliance make the Cajun P330 a vital part of the infrastructure for your network.

Cajun P330 Highlights

Stack Features
- Octaplane™ 8Gbps stacking fabric
- Up to 400 10/100 ports in a stack
- Designed to support up to 640 10/100 ports
- Hot–Swappable/Stack redundancy
- Server load balancing – Web and L7 switching
- Backup power supply
- Fully standards compliant

Basic Features
- Standard auto–negotiation
- LAG (Link Aggregation Group)/LAG redundancy
- Layer 2/Layer 3/Layer 4 switching
- Port redundancy
- Congestion Control
- 802.1Q/p VLAN and priority
- QoS and Security – Policy enforcement
- Day One Ready for data, voice and video

Network Management
- Canjun View™ network management
- Cajun P330 Manager
- CLI (Command Line Interface)
- Embedded Web management

Network Monitoring
- SMON Switch Monitoring
- RMON – four groups

AVAYA communication™
The Former Enterprise Networks Group of Lucent Technologies

Philippine Distributor
Lattice NETWORKS
Tel 727–7224 • Fax 723–7951

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Tuesday, March 6, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Asiatrust Dev. Bank Inc.	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	2,000
Bank of the Phil. Islands	70	70	69.5	70	96,600
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	54	54.5	52.5	52.5	264,200
First E-Bank Corp.	2	2	2	2	9,000
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	229	229	226	226	19,000
Philippine National Bank	49.5	50.5	49	50.5	351,300
Security Bank Corp.	23.5	23.5	23.5	23.5	2,000
Union Bank of the Phil.	25	25	25	25	6,500
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Bankard Inc.	1.6	1.6	1.58	1.58	599,000
Filipino Fund Inc	0.42	0.42	0.42	0.42	10,000
First Metro Invest. Corp.	250	250	250	250	500
Manulife Financial Corp.	1270	1275	1260	1275	5,910
Sun Life Financial Serv.	990	990	960	965	12,750
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	47	47	46.5	46.5	4,300
Digital Telecom Phils. Inc.	0.64	0.64	0.62	0.62	60,000
Globe Telecom Inc.	725	725	725	725	2,000
Island Info and Tech Inc.	0.055	0.055	0.05	0.05	2,500,000
Liberty Telecoms Holdings	0.51	0.51	0.51	0.51	30,000
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	4	4	3.65	3.65	45,000
Piltel	0.67	0.67	0.65	0.65	300,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	805	810	805	810	63,270
Ivantage Corp.	1.04	1.04	1.02	1.04	844,000
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.07	0.07	0.0675	0.0675	69,900,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	52.5	53	52.5	53	16,200
Manila Electric Co. B	63.5	63.5	62	62	321,900
Petron Corp.	1.88	1.88	1.86	1.88	1,083,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.95	0.95	0.95	0.95	160,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.28	1.28	1.26	1.26	616,000
Keppel Phils. Marine Inc.	0.52	0.55	0.52	0.55	380,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Union Cement Corp.	0.87	0.87	0.87	0.87	130,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Jollibee Foods Corp.	11.5	11.75	11.5	11.75	359,100
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	36.5	37	36.5	37	21,600
RFM Corp.	1.34	1.34	1.3	1.3	845,000
San Miguel Corp. A	48	48	47.5	48	40,300
San Miguel Corp. B	56	56	55.5	56	112,200
Vitarich Corp.	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	100,000
HOLDING FIRMS					
Abacus Con Res & Hdg A	0.58	0.58	0.58	0.58	70,000
Ayala Corp.	7.6	7.7	7.6	7.6	1,406,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.6	1.6	1.58	1.58	706,000
Alliance Global Group Inc.	12	12.5	12	12.25	2,500
Ajo.Net Holdings Inc.	1	1	1	1	30,000
A. Soriano Corp.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	50,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.007	0.007	0.007	0.007	8,000,000
ATN Holdings Inc.	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.8	85,000
Bacnotan Cons Indus Inc.	12.75	12.75	12.75	12.75	1,800
Boulevard Holdings Inc.	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	60,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	3.15	3.15	3.05	3.1	9,025,000
Basic Consolidated Inc.	0.18	0.18	0.18	0.18	1,240,000
Crown Equities Inc.	0.28	0.28	0.28	0.28	20,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.48	0.5	0.48	0.5	560,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.17	460,000
Fil-Estate Corp.	1.44	1.44	1.44	1.44	10,000
Filinvest Dev. Corp.	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	100,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	23.75	23.75	23.5	23.5	13,000
Global Equities Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	240,000
Ionics Inc.	13.25	13.25	13.25	13.25	10,000
Ipeople Inc.	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.86	250,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	2.65	2.65	2.65	2.65	5,000
Macroasia Corp.	2	2	2	2	75,000
Marsteel Cons. Inc. A	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.015	100,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.91	0.92	0.91	0.91	2,150,000
Multitech Inv. Corp.	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.4	50,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	1,970,000
Uniwide Holdings Inc.	0.37	0.37	0.37	0.37	180,000
Waterfront Phils. Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.32	0.32	230,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
A Brown Company Inc.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	100,000
Metro Alliance Holdings	1	1	1	1	1,000,000
Music Corp.	3	3	2.95	2.95	82,000
Mabuhay Vinyl Corp.	0.72	0.8	0.72	0.8	20,000
Picop Resources Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	250,000
Pryce Corp.	0.46	0.46	0.45	0.45	1,000,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	12.25	12.75	12.25	12.75	56,600
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	100,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.74	0.76	0.69	0.7	40,800,000
Leisure & Resorts Corp.	0.69	0.71	0.68	0.69	7,570,000
Manila Jockey Club	18	18	18	18	7,900
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
PNB Warrants	22	22	22	22	1,000
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	47	47	47	47	61,000
Ayala Corp. Pref.	1.16	1.16	1.14	1.14	11,000
DMCI Holdings Inc- Pref.	500	500	495	495	2,420
Equitable PCI Bank-War	3.95	3.95	3.8	3.8	65,000
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	730	730	730	730	2,360
Jollibee Warrants	11.25	11.5	11.25	11.25	43,300
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	70,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Q	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	700
PLDT (10% Pref) Series T	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	100
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Y	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	1,300
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10.25	10.25	10.25	10.25	900
OTHERS					
Centro Escolar University	6.5	6.5	6.5	6.5	4,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	6.6	6.6	6.5	6.6	7,461,000
C & P Homes Inc.	0.33	0.33	0.33	0.33	350,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.41	0.42	0.41	0.42	1,280,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	2.8	2.85	2.8	2.85	1,310,000
Gotesco Land Inc.	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	100,000
Fil-Estate Land Inc.	0.47	0.47	0.47	0.47	10,000
Mrc Allied Ind. Inc.	0.41	0.41	0.41	0.41	290,000
Philippine Estates Corp.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	350,000
Robinsons Land Corp.	2.16	2.16	2.16	2.16	2,000
SM Development Corp.	0.96	0.96	0.96	0.96	800,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	7.1	7.1	7	7	2,744,000
Universal Rightfield Prop.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	200,000
MINING					
Apex Mining Co. Inc B	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	25,000,000
Abra Mining & Industrial	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	2,000,000
Dizon Copper Silver Mines	3	3	3	3	10,000
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.016	0.016	0.016	0.016	2,000,000
Lepanto Cons Mng. Co. A	0.21	0.21	0.2	0.2	300,000
Lepanto Cons. Mng. Co. B	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	150,000
Manila Mining Corp. A	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	0.0065	2,000,000
Omico Corp.	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	0.0046	5,000,000
Philex Mining Corp. A	0.235	0.235	0.235	0.235	1,470,000
Philex Mining Corp. B	0.23	0.23	0.23	0.23	150,000
United Paragon Mining Co.	0.17	0.17	0.17	0.17	300,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.027	1,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. A	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	10,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.005	0.005	0.005	0.005	55,000,000
The Philodrill Corp. B	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.22	1,100,000
Pacifica	0.018	0.018	0.018	0.018	1,000,000
Vulcan Ind'l	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.24	40,000

CURRENCIES

March. 6, 2001 Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.075847	1.000000	47.8120
Japan	Yen	0.009033	0.008396	0.4014
United Kingdom	Pound	1.579129	1.467800	70.1785
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.503389	0.467900	22.3712
Switzerland	Franc	0.137932	0.128208	6.1299
Canada	Dollar	0.651476	0.605547	28.9524
Singapore	Dollar	0.695621	0.646580	30.9143
Australia	Dollar	0.562034	0.522411	24.9775
Bahrain	Dinar	2.853858	2.652661	126.8290
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.286862	0.266638	12.7485
Brunei	Dollar	0.613297	0.570060	27.2557
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000117	0.000109	0.0052
Thailand	Baht	0.024743	0.022999	1.0996
UAE	Dirham	0.292947	0.272294	13.0189
Korea	Won	0.000824	0.000766	0.0366
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.929500	44.4413
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.475246	22.7225
France	Franc	0.152450	0.141701	6.7750
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453781	0.421789	20.1666
Austria	Schilling	0.072672	0.067549	3.2297
Belgium	Franc	0.024790	0.023042	1.1017
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000480	0.0229
Finland	Markka	0.168188	0.156331	7.4745
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004636	0.2217
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005586	0.2671
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024790	0.023042	1.1017
Ireland	Punt	1.269739	1.180222	56.4288

Shares end lower

(From page B1)

P613.56 million.

Eagle Equities president Joseph Roxas said investors were now looking elsewhere for fresh buying incentives.

"I think people are waiting to see how the economy will perform and how the government will address its budget deficit, which will eventually affect interest rates," said Roxas.

Investors are also awaiting the outcome of the scheduled May midterm elections to see how the administration party will fare, he added.

Further market consolidation is expected in the coming sessions in the absence of fresh market-moving developments.

"There's no real incentive to enter the market right now," said Roxas.

"There are regional holidays in Singapore and Malaysia and that's responsible for the weak turnover," ATR Kim Eng Securities research head Luz Lorenzo said.

AP, Reuters

COUNTRY SHARES

As of March 7, 2001

	BUYING	SELLING
Alabang Country Club	1,850,000	
Baguio Country Club	800,000	850,000
Capitol Hills Golf Club		115,000
Eagle Ridge A	400,000	
Forest Hills A	280,000	290,000
Luisita Golf		550,000
Makati Sports A/B*		400,000/500,000*
Manila Polo Club	3,200,000	
Manila Southwoods A/B*	850,000/900,000*	
Orchard "A"		300,000
Puerto Azul	130,000	140,000
Quezon City Sports	230,000	250,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club		280,000
Tagaytay Country Club/Golf*		500,000/1,250,000*
Tagaytay Midlands	870,000	900,000
Valley Golf	300,000	350,000
WackWack	8,500,000	

Please call Tel. No. 853-1626 or Fax No. 853-1627

EPSON
Perfect Picture Imaging System

Get rid of that old printer!
Change it with the new . . .

EPSON STYLUS™ PRO 7500
EPSON STYLUS™ PRO 9500

- Revolutionary prints with high light-fastness.
- Water resistant and retains vivid color.
- New Archival EPSON ColorFast Inks
- Award winning Ink Jet Technology
- Broad ranging applications and media support
- Advanced features with simple user interfaces
- Diverse options offer complete printing solution
- Total connectivity

A1 PLUS 1440dpi
24" WIDTH
EPSON 7500

B0 PLUS 1440dpi
44" WIDTH
EPSON 9500

HURRY!
PROMO ENDS ON MARCH 31, 2001

TRADE - IN
Any Brand, Model, Working or Non-working!

50% OFF

Mastering the Art of Photo Quality

Computer Graphics, Inc.
2/F CGI Bldg., 25 Gilmore corner Aurora Blvd., New Manila, Quezon City
Tel. Nos.: 722-4750/ 721-3291/ 722-6425 • Fax No.: 721-5517

Authorized Dealers:
Grafika Distributors, Inc.-- Tel: 373-6634 to 36
CBX Corporation (Cebu) -- Tel: 346-1461 to 63
Power Mac (Megamall) -- Tel: 633-7452 or 54

ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION : Some Hard Facts
Ask! Healthy Options
How Foods Fight Cancer
Peel Away Wrinkles
Ipriflavone
The Herb-Drug Mix
How We Age
OUT NOW!

The best things in life
are free...

Read well.

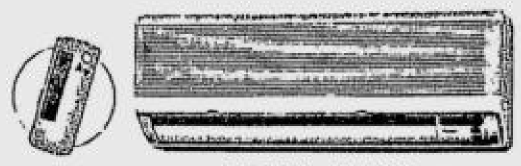
At *Healthy Options*, we believe a natural products store has a responsibility to provide more than just healthy and natural products; it should also provide the knowledge people need to use these products to benefit their own health. Get your free copy now at any *Healthy Options* store

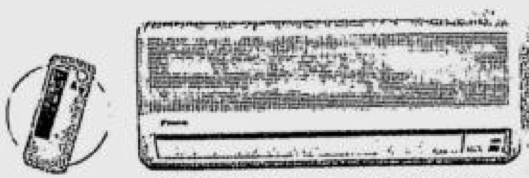
- Shangri-La Plaza EDSA
- SM Megamall EDSA
- Rustan's Supermarket Makati
- Greenbelt Makati
- SM City North EDSA
- SM City Manila
- Festival Supermall Alabang
- Ayala Center, Cebu

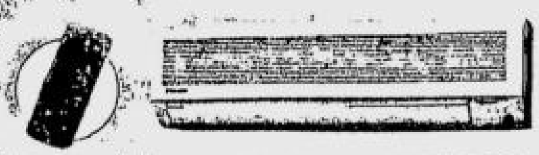
DAIKIN
SPLIT AIR CONDITIONER
COOL SUMMER SAVER
SAVE P5,000* OR MORE ON INSTALLATION
Now you have every reason to get a Daikin Split Air Conditioner this summer. Only a Daikin Split Air Conditioner gives you super quiet cooling, reducing noise to a record-breaking 29db. All our models are coated with an Anti-Corrosion substance for superior rust-resistance. Higher models are designed with the intelligent Self-Diagnostic function for fast and easy maintenance. With Daikin's high energy efficiency, you also get to save more on electricity. Plus, you get FREE INSTALLATION! Now, isn't that cool?

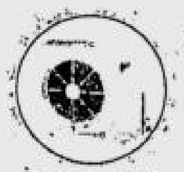
Promo runs from March 7 to April 15 only.

Daikin Wall Mounted Super Quiet Split with Anti-Corrosion


MODEL ANW23
(3/4 hp)


MODEL FT25 • MODEL FT35
(1 hp) (1.5 hp)


MODEL FT50 • MODEL FT60
(2 hp) (2.5 hp)
with Self-Diagnostic


Outdoor Unit

*Up to 3m (10 ft.) of refrigerant pipings (excluding outdoor unit's mounting brackets and feeder line) with every purchase of any of these models. Customers to pay P200/.3m in excess of the free 3m (10 ft.)

FOR FREE ESTIMATE & INSTALLATION, CALL YOUR NEAREST DAIKIN-ALEN AUTHORIZED DEALER:

METRO MANILA
NORTH:
- Airwell Trading & Air Conditioning Service 411-3423 / 371-0259
- AVM Industries Corporation 732-6645
- Cyclic Industrial Corporation 444-3411 / 983-9259
- E-Cube Engineering Construction 921-9165
- Enercon Air Specialists Corporation 374-0844 / 373-5767
- Marco, Incorporated 920-4974
- Melectro Industrial Corporation 435-6306 / 926-0916
- Neri Industrial Corporation 456-1269 / 929-7660
- Raigo Industries, Inc. 931-1306 / 453-3300
- Salemaire Industries Corporation 927-9344 / 453-7301
- TDS Air Conditioning Industries, Inc. 921-4734 / 921-9754
- United Engineers Corporation 927-1257 / 927-6456

SOUTH:
- Building Integrated Corporation 824-9772
- Climate Trading Engineering 843-8647 / 844-5646
- Freeze Aire Air Conditioning Service 438-2789
- Teknikos Ref & Airconditioning Services, Inc. 861-0203

EAST:
- Cold Magic Aircon Sales & Service 921-0503 / 927-9924
- Delta Cool Engineering Services 726-8414 / 723-0288
- Hyatt Industrial Mfg. Corporation 725-9709 / 725-3648
- RCE Air Conditioning Corporation 413-7913 / 724-8950
- Twin Mark 532-5949 / 746-9577

WEST:
- Ambassador Appliance 241-3867 / 241-3875
- BRHL Trading 714-0051
- Cluster Aire Industries 254-0006 / 254-0012
- SkyAsia International Trading Corporation 749-9101 / 749-9102
- Supercool Air Conditioning Center 241-4744 / 241-4768
- Z.D. Trading 711-8690 / 731-1258

CENTRAL & NORTH LUZON:
- Angeles Better Service (045) 888-6551
- CGS/Solid Gen. Enterprises (045) 963-3416
- Marco, Incorporated (045) 887-4353
- Savers Mart (045) 892-3387
- TDS Air Conditioning Industries, Inc. (San Fernando) (045) 961-4108
- TDS Air Conditioning Industries, Inc. (Tarlac) (045) 982-7456

SOUTH LUZON:
- Airtech Partners Company (049) 837-0548
- AMC Unihome System Corporation (046) 471-4746
- Delta Intertrade Corporation (049) 893-1013
- Technocycle Corporation 861-5192 / 861-4737
- TDS Air Conditioning Industries, Inc. (Laguna) (049) 545-7426

VISAYAS:
- Alenaire Cebu, Inc. (032) 354-1615
- LDC Refrigeration & Airconditioning, Inc. (Bacolod) (032)435-2179
- Polaris Power Engineering (Dumaguete) (035) 225-4745
- LDC Refrigeration & Airconditioning, Inc. (Iloilo) (033) 337-4625
- Addy's Refrigeration Service Center (Ormoc) (053)255-2671
- RL Appliance, Inc. (Ormoc) (053) 321-2635
- Electrodyne Engineering Services (Oroquieta) (088) 531-1990
- RL Appliance, Inc. (Tacloban) (053) 321-2635
- Sammy's Aircon & Refrigeration (Tagbilaran) (036) 411-4102

MINDANAO:
- Alenaire Cebu, Inc. (Davao) (082) 222-8488 / 89
- Goodway Aire Gallery (Cagayan de Oro) (088) 855-1509 / 10
- Cool Options General Services (Davao) (082) 299-0548
- LA Cooling, Inc. (Davao) (082) 227-1178
- Cool Aire (General Santos) (083) 555-2982

DAIKIN
DAIKIN-ALEN
AIR CONDITIONING, INC.
41 Linaw St., Sta. Mesa Heights,
Quezon City 1144, Philippines
Phone: (632) 415-2276 Fax: (632) 712-4501

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0586, Series of 2001

DTI says tax perks a must in attracting investments

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry yesterday defended the importance of incentives in attracting foreign investments after the Department of Finance revealed that P124 billion in potential revenues have been lost due to these fiscal perks.

Trade Secretary Manuel "Mar" Roxas II said that the DOF figures were bloated by tax scams and other leakage and should not be attributed totally to foregone revenues arising from incentive programs.

Roxas said that the foregone revenues should be weighed against other benefits in terms of job creation, dollar earnings and technology transfer that emanate from investments coming into the country.

ROXAS

Roxas said incentives should not be seen as a revenue loss but as a revenue gain. He said critics of fiscal perks failed to consider the revenues generated by the new jobs created by the new investors, the new construction activities, and the new sales turnover.

He said that from a regional perspective, the country's incentives were not that excessive and were in fact lagging behind those of other countries that are more developed.

Roxas said incentives were necessary to make up for whatever disadvantages the country might have if compared to other countries that are also being considered by prospective investors.

He said incentives have become even more important since the country has been competing for investments not only with other Asean countries but also with China which has emerged as the Western countries' most favored investment destination.

ROMULO HONORED

The Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE) hosted a testimonial cocktail in honor of Finance Secretary Alberto G. Romulo last Feb. 15, 2001 at the Members' Lounge of the PSE Plaza Makati. The affair also gave securities and money market players the opportunity to share among themselves their views and plans for the year 2001. Shown in photo (from left) are Felipe U. Yap, PSE chair; Romulo; Jose Cuisia, former Central Bank governor, and Roberto Coyuito Jr., PSE Listings' Committee chair.

Philamlife hails excellent sales performers

THE PHILIPPINE American Life and General Insurance Company (Philamlife), the largest and most diversified life insurance in the Philippines, will hold its annual National Recognition Program from March 8 to 10 at the Westin Philippine Plaza.

Titled "1: One Company, One Destiny," the agency recognition program will be a gathering of outstanding performers of the agency force, as well as the company's key executives.

The event aims to acknowledge the importance of its agency force, to pay tribute to its deserving agents who have continually kept the company number one, and to show appreciation to the people who have dedicated and committed themselves to uphold the company's standards of sales excellence.

The highlight of the program is the recognition of the agency leaders and career agents who satisfied the production requirements of the 2001 Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT), Premier Agents Club, Associates of the Year and other special honor clubs.

Other scheduled activities lined up for the three-day affair include a convention, a Fantasy Island-inspired fellowship night, a Kapihan breakfast forum, and a Venice masquerade ball theme for the gala awards night.

Popular singer and celebrity Zsa ZSa Padilla and famous comedian and impersonator Willie Nepumuceno will be on hand to bring more delight and excitement to the event.

The National Recognition Program serves as a toast to the excellent sales performers of Philamlife. To be a part of this program is a proud milestone in the lives of many insurance agents and agency leaders.

Moneymaker Prime
Guaranteed Money! Guaranteed Life!

OUR WORLD revolves around the lifelong process of evolution. Times change, needs change. Companies undergo constant adaptation in order to cope with the demands of their clientele. The insurance industry is no exception.

Insurance products have undergone a continuous evolution over the past few decades. No longer are they products whose benefits are realized only when the death of a policyholder occurs. They have evolved into products, which serve as alternative vehicles for savings and investment. After all, this is what the new breed of investment-conscious clients want—protection with savings benefits.

In order to keep up with the growing demands of its new breed of clients, Philamlife has introduced several revolutionary products that provide insurance protection, as well as savings benefits. The newest addition to this set of products is Moneymaker Prime that took to the sky on Sept. 16, 2000 at the Philam Group Product Fair at the SM Megamall. The fair is set to run from Sept. 16-23 at the Activity Center of SM Megamall Building A.

Moneymaker Prime is essentially a product designed for the working individual. It is a plan that serves as an alternative method for savings and investment. It enhances one's individual savings and provides a good rate of return. These returns are realized every five years since Moneymaker Prime gives 20 percent, 30 percent, 50 percent and 200 percent of its face amount/value at the end of the 5th, 10th, 15th and 20th policy years, respectively.

On top of all this it also provides built-in life insurance protection as well as the benefit of the multiplication options. That is the inherent beauty of Philamlife's products—the multiplication of options. This means that additional benefits can be added in order to make them a complete package... products that address concerns of investment, disability, protection, and health.

So, why settle for products that only give you cash benefits? Look for a product that actually gives you the complete package—investment, disability, health, and protection. Look for Moneymaker Prime.

ADVT

BOOSTING STOCKS

Gov't OKs PITC plan to import rice

STATE-OWNED Philippine International Trading Corp (PITC) has been authorized to import 50,000 tons of rice as part of the required 450,000 tons the government is buying overseas for the country's buffer stocks.

"They will no longer participate in the March 9 tender as they were given a reservation to import 50,000 tons," a senior official of the National Food Authority (NFA) said yesterday.

The NFA, the sole government agency authorized to directly import rice, will buy the grain from PITC.

The NFA official said the result of the NFA's tender on March 9 to buy 300,000 tons of rice from foreign governments will be used as a yardstick in its negotiation with PITC.

The NFA has said it planned to bring 25 percent broken long grain white rice from Vietnam, China and Thailand. The NFA said the minimum offer should be 25,000 tons.

"Foreign government suppliers who will source rice from their own countries may be allowed to offer a maximum quantity equivalent to 150,000 MT," it said in a statement.

"Foreign government suppliers who will source supply not from their countries but from other countries of origin will be allowed to offer a maximum volume of only 50,000 MT," the NFA said.

It said 25 percent of the rice should come "on a best effort" this month, at least 50 percent next month and the balance in May.

On March 8, the NFA is also scheduled to seek tenders for the supply of another 100,000 tons of rice from either private suppliers or foreign governments.

The grain should come from Vietnam, China and Thailand for shipment no later than April 15.

Under the terms of the tender, a trading house can offer to supply a minimum of 25,000 tons and a maximum of 50,000 tons.

But there is no restriction on the volume of rice that can come from the three countries.

Other details of the tender will be discussed at a pre-bidding conference on Tuesday, NFA officials said.

They also said the NFA will invite representatives from farmers and peasants groups to sit in the bid committee to ensure transparency of the tenders on March 8 and 9.

Officials of the NFA said the tender for the supply of rice from foreign governments would be the first to be held by Manila.

The bulk of the country's rice imports were made through government-to-government negotiations in previous years and the prices at which the grain was bought were not made public.

On Sunday, Agriculture Secretary Leonardo Montemayor said he planned to ask the NFA to make public all information on the import of commodities.

Besides rice, the NFA is also authorized to import corn and sugar. *Reuters*

For decades, business thinking focused on strategy, structure, systems. Today the best practices of excellent companies focus on sense of purpose, effective management process and employee development. The critical scarce resource in the new company will be knowledge -- composed of information, intelligence and expertise. This intellectual capital combined with the initiative, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit of people give a company its much-needed competitive advantage.

For more insights, join the

6th ANNUAL
MAP MANAGEMENT
CONFERENCE

The New Economy
Purpose, Process and People
(Going beyond strategy, structure and systems)

20 March 2001, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Grand Ballroom, Dusit Hotel

Management Association of the Philippines

For reservations, contact the MAP Secretariat
Tel: 751-1149 to 52 • Fax: 751-1154 • e-mail: mapsec@globe.com.ph

ROYAL SPONSORS: hp invent · The Lopez Group of Companies · Metro Pacific Corporation · Microsoft · Inquirer
MAJOR SPONSORS: Globe Telecom · philbx · SAP
ASSOCIATE SPONSORS: Ayala Corporation · IBM · Sun

EXHIBITORS: ● Center for Leadership and Change ● Fort Bonifacio Development Corp. ● Hewlett-Packard Philippines ● Lopez Group of Companies ● Microsoft ● Philippine Daily Inquirer

San Miguel to chalk up 20% profit hike

By Elena R. Torrijos

FOOD and beverage giant San Miguel Corp. would chalk up a 20-percent growth in profits this year, San Miguel chair Eduardo Cojuangco Jr. said in a news briefing yesterday.

In an interview following the aborted stockholders' meeting of United Coconut Planters Bank, Cojuangco said San Miguel was also considering more acquisitions, with negotiations to acquire listed canned meats producer Pure Foods Corp. from the Ayala group of companies seen completed by May this year.

Cojuangco said he did not think Pure Foods would cost San Miguel P9 billion.

"I'm hopeful. There are just some small details that are being ironed out," Cojuangco told reporters.

He also disclosed that San Miguel was also looking to acquire other firms related to its core businesses.

The company might even try acquiring a business bigger than Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc., which it acquired jointly with The Coca-Cola Co., he said.

Cojuangco expressed confidence San Miguel would be able to meet its performance targets this year.

Last year, San Miguel reported a consolidated recurring net income of P7.5 billion, 35 percent higher than the previous year.

Cojuangco said, meanwhile, he felt his group had enough shares to maintain the San Miguel's current board.

San Miguel recently filed a preliminary proxy statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission to nominate the same set of directors it had, including the nominees of the Presidential Commission on Good Government under the Estrada administration.

Globe, Islacom sign merger agreements

By Anthony O. Alcantara

AYALA-OWNED Globe Telecom yesterday said it had signed a series of agreements that would make Isla Communications its wholly owned subsidiary.

In a disclosure to the Philippine Stock Exchange yesterday, Globe said its principal shareholders, Ayala Corp. and Singapore Telecom International Pte. Ltd., and Islacom's principal shareholders, Deteasia Hldgs Gmbh and Asiacom Philippines, signed the agreements Monday.

Under one of the agreements, Deteasia and Asiacom will subscribe to 28,830,860 new common shares and 158,515,021 series "A" preferred shares, respectively, of Globe in exchange for 100 percent of the issued and outstanding capital stock of Islacom.

Globe also said Singtel and Deteasia had signed a sale and purchase agreement wherein Singtel will acquire Deteasia's 3.423 million common Asiacom shares in exchange for 180,606 shares of Globe's common stocks.

Ayala Corp., through a cross sale at the Philippine Stock Exchange, acquired on Feb. 27 a stake in Asiacom in exchange for 541,817 of Globe common shares.

The SEC and the PSE still have to approve the amendment of Globe's articles and by-laws to effect the closing of these transactions.

In an earlier interview, Islacom chief finance officer Gil B. Genio, the former CFO of Globe, said Islacom would be a short-term drag to Globe because of Islacom's huge debts.

Uniwide stands to lose properties in Cavite

By Elena R. Torrijos

ING Bank NV is seeking to foreclose on 217 parcels of land in Cavite pledged by the cash-strapped Uniwide group of companies to secure the personal loans of its majority owner, Jimmy Gow.

The Dutch bank informed the Securities and Exchange Commission in a letter that it would cancel a memorandum of agreement it signed with Uniwide on Dec. 15 last year settling Gow's personal loans on a *dacion en pago*, or payment-in-kind, arrangement.

ING Bank said French retailer Casino Guichard-Perrachon SA's withdrawal meant that the December agreement could no longer be accomplished, which was why it was now seeking to foreclose on Uniwide's properties in Cavite.

The bank was earlier set to foreclose on the mortgage because Gow failed and refused to settle his long-overdue and payable personal loans.

The SEC, however, ordered ING Bank to cease and desist from proceeding with the scheduled extra-judicial sale of the properties.

The bank filed a motion for reconsideration that has yet to be resolved.

Uniwide reportedly owes ING Bank P127 million, which is secured by over P400 million in collateral, of which the Cavite properties account for P127 million.

The SEC's orders granting debt relief to Uniwide in 1999 was not applicable to the bank because the bank was not a creditor of any of the members of the Uniwide group, ING Bank argued.

Like son, like father

COCKTALES

By Victor C. Agustin

MAGTANGGOL Gunigundo, chair of the Ramos-era Presidential Commission on Good Government, is following the footsteps of his son and will run for congressman in the newly created second district of Valenzuela.

Gunigundo's son, also named Magtanggol, is currently the congressman of the original but now truncated district of the same city. One of the so-called Spice Boys, the young Gunigundo is seeking reelection against former Rep. Antonio Serapio, an elder relative of Erap lawyer Edward Serapio.

The elder Gunigundo is pitted as the administration standard-bearer against Sherwin Gatchalian, son of plastics king and Erap presidential adviser William Gatchalian.

The sprawling plastics factory of the Gatchalians is located in the new district, incidentally.

Incidentally, the other Gunigundo in the public eye, Diwa, is a younger brother of the ex-PCGG chief.

A Bangko Sentral managing director and a political detainee during the martial law years, Diwa has just relocated to Virginia with his family after being appointed as the bank's representative to the International Monetary Fund in Washington D.C.

Dollar woes and CNBC

A SHORT answer to why CNBC has been dropped from the Sky Cable lineup is because of the drastic devaluation of the peso.

Since three or four years ago when Sky Cable added CNBC to its offerings, the subscription contract with the Singapore-based business channel has always been denominated in US dollars.

"Unlike other service sectors such as power and telecommunications, cable does not have a forex adjustment clause that could protect itself from peso downfall," said Sky Cable spokesman Michael Cervantes.

On top of the devaluation, CNBC had annually increased its fees, except for the proposed contract this year.

Because of the double-whammy of devaluation and economic slowdown, Sky Cable wanted to drop CNBC from its provincial stations and simply retain it for the Metro Manila subscribers but with a corresponding 50-percent rate cut from CNBC to reflect the reduced subscriber base.

"Unfortunately, CNBC did not agree to just taking (Metro Manila)," Cervantes said. "Their position is both (the provincial areas and Metro Manila), or nothing at all."

Despite Sky Cable having unilaterally cut off CNBC, the two parties are still negotiating, with Sky Cable also insisting that CNBC denominate the new contract in pesos.

Sky Cable last increased its home subscription rates in January 1998 when the peso-dollar rate was P37-$1 while competing Home Cable raised its fees last year, four years since its last increase.

Newcomer Destiny Cable also increased its subscription fees last year but had to roll it back due to weakening customer demand, Cervantes said.

Short takes

- SECOND-HAND, portable aircons from Japan the size of karaoke machines are being retailed in Port Area surplus row at P3,500 each, transformer included. Compare this with a brand-new, locally assembled 3/4 hp aircon selling at around P12,000.

The surplus sets carry no warranty; the labels and instructions are all in Japanese.

- HIGH voltage power cables have been officially linked to cancer for the first time, The Sunday Times of London reported, quoting a study commissioned by a UK government health agency.

Children living near electric power cables are at a small, but significant, risk from leukemia and there may also be a link with adult cancers, said a report to the National Radiological Protection Board.

- THE WHITE and Gray albums, containing the signature songs of the anti-Erap and the Edsa II campaigns, may now be bought above-ground from your favorite record stores.

The CDs are at P180 apiece.

They make good *pasalubong* to relatives and friends overseas.

Heard through the grapevine

RAMON Ang is stepping down as vice chair and de facto COO of San Miguel Corp. in the next stockholders' meeting.

Ang, who currently holds the management proxy, will however stay on at the San Miguel board as a Cojuangco nominee.

(Cocktales may be reached by e-mail at cocktales_pdi@yahoo.com or at cocktales_pdi@hotmail.com.)

DTI backs move to stop auto auctions in Subic

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE DEPARTMENT of Trade and Industry (DTI) will back a move by the Bureau of Customs to shut down immediately the auction of used vehicles and heavy equipment at the Subic Bay Freeport.

Trade Secretary Manuel "Mar" Roxas II said the DTI would support a plan to shut down Subic Auctioneers International and Asia International Auctioneers (AIA) to curb alleged smuggling in the auctions and put the brakes on the proliferation of sub-standard vehicles and equipment in the country.

Roxas told reporters yesterday that it was imperative for the government to plug the leakage in smuggling in view of the projected P145-billion budget deficit projected this year.

"There are many reports of potential leakage in customs areas. By stopping the auctions, we will have more time to undertake a study of their operations," Roxas said. "We have no objections to the Bureau of Customs undertaking the review until such time we can take appropriate actions."

Aside from possible sources of smuggling, the DTI-Bureau of Import Standards also scored the Subic auctions as purveyors of smoke-belching and unsafe vehicles.

The DTI-BIS warned the public that they would have to shoulder the costs of repairs to raise the vehicles' standards to comply with government standards for emission, roadworthiness and safety.

It noted that the Land Transportation Office would not register vehicles that fail tests of roadworthiness and emissions as well as those converted left-hand drive vehicles that did not follow the required procedures for repositioning the vehicles' steering wheel. The DTI-BIS said buyers of used vehicles and heavy equipment would end up paying more if they opted to source from these suppliers.

The Subic auctions have been suspended for several months now after the Philippine Automotive Federation complained of the unfair competition posed by the used cars which are a big threat to the industry.

The PAF asked the Board of Investments to look deeper into Subic's auction system to determine whether importers of these used vehicles have paid excise taxes and custom duties as well as complied with the government's emission and safety standards.

PAF expressed its deep concern over the spate of auctions of all kinds of imported motor vehicles in the Subic freeport considering that the used vehicles, including luxury brands, are normally sold at a fraction of the sticker price on new units.

The auctioneers relented by discontinuing the auction of used cars while they plan to proceed with the sale of used commercial vehicles and heavy equipment this month. But the hammer might not fall on these products if the DTI and BOC push through with the indefinite suspension in the next few days.

GOINGS-ON

Cargo operations

CEBU Pacific Air chalked up over P234 million in gross revenues last year, exceeding its target by nearly 10 percent, Cebu Pacific Cargo VP/general manager Salvador Ramirez said.

Cebu Pacific, the air transportation arm of the Gokongwei group of companies, took over the sale and service of the cargo operations in January 2000. This was previously handled by another entity.

Ramirez said that as of Dec. 31, 2000, Cebu Pacific had moved over P2.5 million kilograms of cargo.

Investors' visa

THE BOARD of Investments Employee Association, in coordination with the One-Stop Action Center, will hold today a special orientation seminar on different visas allowing the indefinite stay in the country of foreign nationals.

The seminar will be held from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Penthouse, BOI Building in Makati City.

To be tackled during the seminar are the special investor resident visa, special retirees resident visa, special investor resident visa and the rules, regulations, policies on investors and retirees' visa.

UNIONBANK
OF THE PHILIPPINES

NOTICE TO ALL STOCKHOLDERS

February 23, 2001

Dear Stockholders:

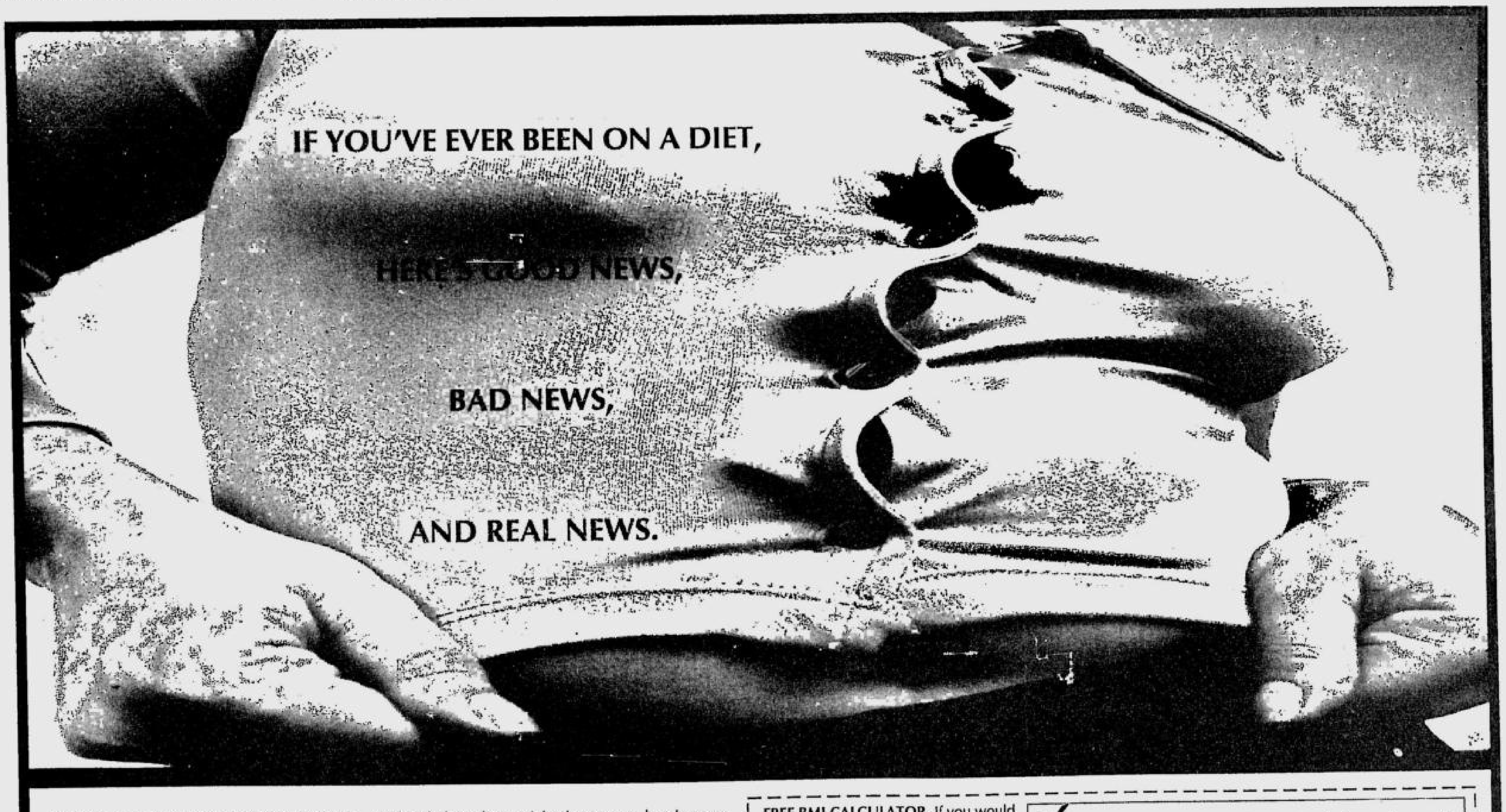
Please be informed that during the meeting of the Board of Directors of UnionBank of the Philippines ("UBP") held on February 23, 2001, the Board approved the Declaration of Cash Dividend of sixteen centavos (P0.16) per share to shareholders of the Bank based on stockholdings of the Bank as of December 31, 2000, payable from the retained earnings of the Bank as of December 31, 1997. The total cash dividend for declaration shall be equivalent to the amount of P88,199,354.24 out of total number of issued shares in UBP of P551,245,964 as of December 31, 2000.

Record and payment dates shall be fixed upon confirmation/approval by the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and Securities and Exchange Commission and proper clearances from Philippine Stock Exchange.

For your information.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ATTY. FE BECINA-MACALINO
Corporate Secretary



If you're on a diet, thinking of starting on one, or already have lost weight due to one, here's some **sobering news.** According to one recent survey, 75% of all dieters gain back most of the weight they lost within one year.

The **good news** for people going on a diet is that you will certainly lose weight in the short-term. But the **bad news** is that there's a better chance they will gain all that weight back.

The **real news:** there is no such thing as a short-term weight loss program. Losing weight requires a sustainable determination on your part, to watch the foods you eat, and to start on an exercise program. Which simply means that the earlier you stop making excuses, and start committing yourself to losing weight, the earlier you can enjoy the benefits of being fit. However, weight management should be closely monitored by a doctor. Also, you are advised not to resort to purchasing over-the-counter drugs.

Your doctor can also tell you about a proven treatment for obesity that has benefited more than 8.5 million individuals around the world. This drug has been well-researched by a reputable pharmaceutical company and is backed by clinical studies with proven efficacy and safety for 30 years before it was marketed. This new treatment, which is a lipase inhibitor, cuts down the absorption of dietary fat in the body by up to 30%, allowing for radical improvements in weight loss and weight management programs. And unlike food supplements that claim to work but have no scientific basis, this drug was approved by the FDA in the US as well as the European Union, and our local BFAD (Bureau of Food and Drugs).

Weight management counsellors are also available by phone, from 9 am - 6 pm, Monday to Friday, to help you compute your BMI, and to give advice on how you can avail of a long-term weight management program. If you're in Metro Manila, call **899-5955** and a counsellor will be on hand to answer your questions. (Outside Metro Manila; please dial **1-800-1-888-5955**).

FREE BMI CALCULATOR. If you would like to check your own Body Mass Index (BMI) fill out this coupon and send it by fax at **890-5012** or mail to Xenical Counselling Center, PO Box 3994, Makati Central Post Office. You can also send an e-mail containing all the information below, and send it to xenical@bcdpinpoint.com . We will send you your own BMI calculator, along with instructions on its use.

HEIGHT
HEIGHT
http://www.roche-obesity.net
BMI
Body Mass Index (BMI) Calculator

☑ **YES,** Please send me my free BMI calculator, along with instructions on how I can accurately measure my Body Mass Index. Please send to the address below:

First Name Last Name
Address
Tel. No. (pls put number where we can reach you during the day)
Mobile phone no
E-mail address
Height Weight
PDI-03-07-2001

Classified Advertising Division
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
☎912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

NATIONAL CLASSIFIEDS

The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P230 per column centimeter P65 per line
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINES
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Mondays to Saturdays 12:00 noon Day before publication
Sundays 12:00 noon every Thursday

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

MEDICAL

PHYSICIAN/SURGEON

SKIN PEEL & WHITENING WARTS PIMPLES SCARS HAIRLOSS Ex SWEAT VD-STD 15 Annapolis, Greenhills Call 7276124 to 25 9am-7pm

VDSTD CLINIC T8175071 MATRINCO BLDG. 2178 PTAMO MKT 9-2pm DR. GATAN

PERSONAL

ARCHITECTS

House/Bldg Plan 7202605 Land Survey Sucs-8819188

CONSTRUCTION/DESIGN

We Build Houses 4178012

HEALTH/FITNESS

BE SLIM 2443937

LEGAL

MARRIAGE ANNULMENT
Professional Consultant
532-4333 • 821-2077

MASSAGE

ASK GEORGE M/F 24 HRS SERVICES 8521874 100% HDSME

European Girl 09179824530

H-H-M-S MALE 7314016

Male #10 Palanan 7320650

•NewMabuhay Msg4383570

•NICE GUYS 4218450

PUREMASSAGE 00173030005

VIP-M/F-8312373 09193591771

Wind-Offl 752-3149 M/F

REFLEXOLOGY

Scorpion Massg 4372542

D' Millenium Tel#9347633

REFLEX 00173448876 Daniel

REFLEX 0919-2395660 Jojo

REFLEX CARLA 716-4898

TUTORIAL LESSONS

ART 0919-5656690/9100942

LALUZ 5268216/5268270

MISCELLANEOUS

FACIAL SKINCARE
Training/ Workshop
8971832 or 8956031 L2011

HOUSEHOLD

HOUSEHOLD JOBS

Affordable Maids 072-0265

Prov'l All Around Maids Driver H'Boy w/NBI 8735062•8712372

BEST MAID PROV'L. 7111602

BEST MAIDS w/NBI 653-3504

Help Agency 5328376/6321947

Maids Drivers 9270418 4536305

MAIDS w/CLEAR 807-5788

MAIDS 9124701•9124706

MAIDS
Available • 871-2370

PACIFIC MAIDS ETC SINCE 1948 T:7312672

RELIABLE MAID YAYA 7418078

We have maids nurse Mwife 4Hmcare 9270418 4536305

LIPAT BAHAY

L-BAHAY 9206784 4540520

L-BAHAY 8383742/5447590

LBAHAY 7113540

L-BAHAY 712-16-92

•LBahay7008843/6302210•

•LBahay7251645/7441698•

LIPAT AGAD 5220956

CARPET CLEANING

CARPET
Sofa Shampooing 820-7088

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

MANDALUYONG

LOT Area 509m² w/ Office & Whouse Parking lot For 5Vans Call 531-1151

PASIG

Along C-Raymundo 3840m² @ 7.8T/m² 30%DP BalTerms Tel 6811786 DBO

QUEZON CITY

**Near Retiro Banawe QC 7M Nice 9283267

**Nr Morato 7-Units Apt 690m² 25T/m² 9283267

Proj.7 LA200m² w/1sty off Bldg. w ide St. nr SM City P8M neg Tel 4140007.4130841.3710692

OTHER AREAS

GUEVENTHOMES
BACOOR near SM
Individual Carport
P10T-P20T/mo. NO D/P

Other units available:
Cainta, Baguio,
Mandaluyong, San Juan
531-1384 • 531-0390/95
(0915) 704-3888
rsgsales@edsamall.com.ph
www.guevent.com

HOUSE & LOT

ALABANG

Alabang Hills LA450m² 3BR P10M • 533-5525

Ayala Alabang 16.5M New 3720888/3720869/3720825

LAS PINAS

**Bn DPlex BFalmza Nr Fr FA208 3Br Mds 2.7M 8253244

LP Royal BN 4.7M 546-9884

Auburn Place 2.2M 2stys 3br 2tb new Term 8747234

Manuela 4A 192 @5700/m² Neg. • Tel.# 874-7234

BFRV 2.2M 3br 2tb Phone Neg LA144 FA90 874-7234

BFRV 2.2M 2sty 3br 2tb Single Terms • 874-7234

BFRV 2.7M Neg LA341 2BR 1TB FA70 • 874-7234

BFRV 2.5M 3br 2tb Phone 2Carport LA180 • 874-7234

BFRV 2.7M Neg 3br 3tb 2carport LA186 874-7234

BFRV 2.6M Neg 2sty 4br 3tb B-New 874-7234 Pepe

MAKATI

215sqm Near EDSA Short Cut MKT 531-0046

**2Bdrm 170m² Salcedo FF 7766018 / 09178622577

**Dasmarinas Vill Mktl 960m² P22M Only Rush 7532532

Holiday Inn Eaton Makati Good Income Tel 928-1469

Magallanes Subd. - Makati H&L LA367 3BR 643-5313

MANILA

H&L 4 sale P6.5M (neg) LA44m2 FA 256m2 conc fin w roof deck TDO nr J.Abad Santos T2688050

Sing nr St.Sch La Sal 5268632

MARIKINA

Grnlnd bnew 3br 2M 9487112

PASIG

Psg Bo Kapitolyo H&L New 6BTB 24hrs H²O • 643-5313

Valle Verde LA840 FA600 4br 6pkg Elegant 691-2457

QUEZON CITY

*Ayala Heights New 372-0888 / 69 / 25

**Ayala Heights QC Houses P16m-P19M Call 9333714

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

HOUSE & LOT

QUEZON CITY

Balor St. QC L-3000/m² Whse 18T/m² Tel 928-1469

Bnew TSora 3.3M neg 4BR 4TB 1CG Cosor 453-4920

**Greenmeadows 30T/sqm. Facing East 658-2410

Greenmeadows LA605 FA650 6br 8pkg Jacuzzi 681-2457

House & Lot Kamuning QC LA350 4BR P13M 533-5525

House & Lot QC LA600m² 6BR 16M 400m² 533-5525

LOYOLA GRAND VILLAS
4BR/6T& B FA400 LA401
435-2340/0917-7002020

Maginhawa U.P. Vil H&L LA650sqm P10M 833-4107

MONTGOMERY PLACES
Block 5 Facing East
E. Rodiguez
TEL#0917-8311757

New Mla 1481114621

Ramat St. w/6sty Bldg 800 SMII QC Whse 9298376

Sta. Mesa Hts 240m² 3BR 3TB Mds Rm 5M 931-7898

E. Abada/Ateneo P24T/m² 1,500 10BR • 721-5225

RIZAL

Birmingham Place Cainta 260m² 2.6M Rush 6334107

VERMONT PARK
3BR 3TB LA200m² FA105m² w/ new Appliances Owner going to US 1.9M 6811706

SAN JUAN

GREENHILLS WEST
Res/Comm Bet. Xavier & ICA
728sqm 2Sty. Mansion 8Br/7Tb
w/Maids Rm. Drivers Rm.
6Cg. 722-1832 / 636-7942

Nr. Aurora Blvd/N.Domingo P9M LA233 4br DBO 7215226

**Nr LaSalle 2BR Prkg 3M Furnished 71m² 532-1651

PROVINCIAL

Francisco Homes San Jose del Monte P400T w/AB 5324333

LAGUNA BEL AIR 3
2600 Units ready 4 reservation!
Luis 834-2296 • 0917-8113239

Tagatay 249.5m 2sty BNew Tel.# 453-4877

Tagaytay L286m² 2Sty Bnew 453-4877 • 928-1469

OTHER AREAS

CanyonWoods Bingas 7.5M ownerlvngSF0917-8143792

•LAGUNA BEL-AIR 3•
LA120m² up 2-3BR w/prkg
Joann 912-5775

CASIMIRO TOWNHOMES
Habay, Bacoor, Cavite
near SM Bacoor
Initial DP: P15,000

WESTVILLE HOMES
Ligas, Bacoor, Cavite
Initial DP: P15,000
FORTE REALTY
2/F Princess Bldg, Esteban St,
Legaspi Village, Makati City
810-8019 873-0787
810-7183 872-7603
815-2144 871-8318
810-7297
Welcome Brokers & Agents

LOT

KALOOCAN

Deparo Cal. City 5000m² VLot P3500T/m² 453-4877

LAS PINAS

BFRV 180m² @ 6,500/m² Near Philam • 874-7234

Camella Prop. Barcelona Sub. •5411121•8741303•

BF Resort 169m² 176m² 180m² 6500/m² • 874-7234

Manuela 4A Thru Verdant 192m² @6700 Neg 8747234

BFRV 176m² @6500/m² neg near BlumField 874-7234

BFRV nr Abel Mosce 169m² 6500 • 874-7234

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

LOT

MARIKINA

Marikina Heights 1860m² P6.5M Neg. • 931-7898

MUNTINLUPA

**Nice Loc M Sun 880m² @10,500/m² Neg 8253244

PARANAQUE

Cor DPX Hse 5.6M 437m² 3BR 2CP Dressing Each Moonvil S Pque 3710002/4 Alma neg of hrs only

Sucat V/L 724m² w/Old Hse at rear 22M neg. 643-5313

PASIG

**Comml LOT Bixto Ave Cor 082m² 141-280275

Greenwoods 138 sqm 127764202

QUEZON CITY

Corinthian Lots 40T up 7240304/7226578 0917-4702264

Del Monte Ave. QC 1600m² V-Lot • Tel 928-1469

Tandang Sora QC L-1040m² P16T/m² • Tel.# 928-1469

Ma Clara Nr. Banawe 1Tm² 23T/m² 724-0304/722-6578

New Mla QC 7449m² 815-0298 • 0919-4037225

Nr Mindanao Ave. 335m² 3720888;3720825;3720869

**Scout Cor LOT w/ Fence 800m² 23T/m² 9283267

Sikatuna V 800m² 12M 915-5177 • 0917-5325440

West Tri. 434 P10.8M Old House DBO 721-5226

RIZAL

240m² 3.9T/m² VISTA VERDE Cainta 6487425

PROVINCIAL

Pacita Coml/Res 8472626

•Las Haciendas de Luisita• 468m² P2,600/m² 0459851884

Malinta Bul 7049m² VLot Along Hiway Tel 453-4877

Puerto Princesa good 4 fstfood bank 0917-3711210

Southwoods Cavite 480m² Face South P7T 633-4107

VARIOUS AREAS

1.)Ayala Avenue Extension, Kamagong Street and Metropolitan Ave.-884m²
2.)Factory Warehouse, Sun valley, Paranaque-8,750m²
3.)Ayala Alabang, Buencamino St.-1,000m²
4.) Vista Verde, Cainta 2,485m² fully fenced
Tel.#:8976288/89•8960194
•DAVE/TESS•

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

KALOOCAN

**Caloocan GF 360m² 2Sty Use 3Sty Whse 9283267

MAKATI

•88 Corp. Ctr BNew 178m² Sale or Rent 412-1825

•Rushi Le Domain 2BR 6M •90m² 4121825/ 150341394

MANILA

Bnew w/garage Singalong nr St. Anthony 2.9MT 5246160

MANDALUYONG

T'house Mandaluyong 4BR Fa150 P6.5M • 533-5525

WACKWACK THomes 93 sqm 2BR 3.2M 531-2021 • 0917-3955738

MARIKINA

MARIKINA HTS
2BR w/provision for attic & 2nd T&B, all concrete
P900T only
921-5033 / 913-1737

PASIG

**OFF Condo Prestige Twr Emerald 4M 141-259275

Pacific Place Ortigas 3BR 3TB Pkg SF 3.9M 6352115

QUEZON CITY

BURGUNDY Plaza QC 2BR 2.5M 5312021 0917-3955738

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE/APT

QUEZON CITY

Cubao Condo P1.3M "EZ"terms Swap Lots Cars C. Shares 9120647 9124428 4381480

Bnew Gilmore / N. Domingo P3.6M 90m² 2br DBO 721-5226

NOVALICHES 350T 0390298

**Scout Townhse 115m² LOT 280m² 3Sty 6M Nice 9283267

RIZAL

Montelban 380T 913-0393

nr Makro 1.2 5yr 2926137

SAN JUAN

**Annapolis Greenhills Condo 2-3Br 7-9M 9203287

OTHER AREAS

**1-3BR Condo Units Avail Call 894-4879 / 7526402

**Sct Madrinan Twnhse 7.4M 3Stry 2Pkg 230m² 5221651

MEMORIAL LOT

Heritage Park Now Open Several Lots • 671-4421

Loyola Memorial Plots Sucat Paranaque Virgie Call 913-2554 or 929-7110

CLUB SHARE & MEMBERSHIP

RUSH Golf Share Boracay P850T txt 0919-5565946

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

APARTMENT

KALOOCAN

3620065 Briones 7Ave 5/T 2T8

MAKATI

2BRoom w/T&Bathtub Nice Mktl Area w/Prkg 728-3283

2BRTB tel. grg 15T 8441669

MANILA

1BR 1TB P6T @732-3957

MANDALUYONG

Nr Boni 1BR Bung C'port Couple P5,300 T532-4446

PASAY

NEAR HP 5,500 1BR 5369502 0917847-3727 PG141-208065

QUEZON CITY

3 BR 2T&B 134F KANLAON ST NEAR LOURDES SCH 9292150

Cubao 2sty T-998-2547

HOUSE

MAKATI

• Dasmarinas Vill Makati • 4BR 4383970 0917-7914379

Sn Mig 45A Layug 8965722/23

QUEZON CITY

4BR Duplx Proj4 9118238

Ldies nr UP Diliman 5243126

New Intramuros QC 120m² 2BR 1TB 2cg 10K 931-7898

RIZAL

Antipolo Bnew 3br 2tb 6447461 ; 0917-4022356

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

**Amorsolo East Rockwell 1Br Pkg FF 50T 8253244

**Le Metroploe Salcedo 3br 2pkg 176m² FF 80T 8253244

Makati FA300m² 3BR FF 85T UNF 100T/mo 6336625

MANDALUYONG

Mandaluyong 1BR New 77m² P2.4M UNF 533-5525

PARANAQUE

2BDRM 2T&B BF HOMES PQUE TEL. 8071245 12T/M

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

**Phoenix Hgt Nr VVerde 1Br 75m² Pkg 30T 8253244

Ortigas Center 2br 40T 3br 60T/month UNF • 533-5525

Ortigas Ctr 2BR FA122m² UNF P25T/mo. • 533-5525

QUEZON CITY

P5,500/mo.CUBAO
P6,500/mo.Malate
Call 911-3361 / 926-4071

SAN JUAN

G'hills 1br FA55m² 18T/mo Parking UNF • 533-5525

FOR LEASE

Buendia
5479010/09194310375

Comm'l/Office/Residential TEL. 8071245 BF Paranaque

•LOT-490m² A.Tuazon & 700m² A. Rodriguez Mkna 430-3970

Roosevelt Ave Lot 300m² 430-3970 • 0917-7914379

ROOM & BOARD

M/F Prof. w/Bfast Dinner Acess Call 433-4577

Mktl Apartel 500-700/day 3T-4.2T/wk ful/fur 8995386

LOAN & MORTGAGE

2 % Wut taking Car 3577523/24

Doctors, Dentist, DVM, Bus, Salary, Real Est. 524-3107

BUSINESS RENTAL

Off/Res at B.G. Belmonte St nr E. Rodriguez QC 7216386

P1,800/mo Stalls
Malate T-400-6420/23
Sn Pedro Lag 8086006/07

Comml Resdl 30m² & up 9T up Good for Grocer Drugs Foods Dental Optical Bank Branch 2038 Mabuhay St. Sta. Ana
563-9649/561-5411

TEKTITE P300/m² 2420922

Tektite-W 109+Pkg FFurn 350/sqm w/View 6334107

RESORT

Jala Jala Bful View 10,000m² 6447461; 0917-4022356

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

CARS

HONDA

96LXI P320T 09175330696

MERCEDES

126M.Benz All Orig See 2 appreciate 634-8160

HEAVY EQUIPMENT/ TRANSPORT

5units Kubota Trctr3672002

D20P Dozer P160 3610215

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

L3•Cars• 9273453 4538295

Starex, L300, Coaster Bus Cars 637-7396 • 631-3498

1Tmm1.5Tprov3730584Cathy

Van Coaster Bus 440-91-71

CARS•VANS•8957247•8969956 BUS•CSTER•BRIDAL•8055623

CARS•VANS•8978113•6065888 BUS•CSTER•BRIDAL•8960950

H-100 Van/Honda 920-7360

FOR LEASE
14 Slot Cemented
CAR PARK along
C. Raymundo Ave.,
Corner Mercedes
Ave., San Miguel,
Pasig City
Suitable for
CAR BUY & SELL BUSINESS
Contact LYN @
6402145 or 6402975

CARTIMAR SHOPPING CENTER
Taft Avenue, Pasay City

PRIME COMMERCIAL SPACES
AVAILABLE FOR RENT

- New Building
- Ground Floor
- In front of Market section where most First Class hotels, & wives of expats do their marketing & personal shopping.

WE ARE INVITING WHOLESALERS and RETAILERS DEALING IN INTERNATIONAL FOODSTUFF AND INGREDIENTS SUCH AS JAPANESE, KOREAN, CHINESE, INDIAN, SPANISH, MIDDLE EASTERN, ETC..

FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

Apply in person, please see
Ms NILDA TRINIDAD or CHOLLY ROQUE
Cartimar Administration Office
Tels. 831-1869, 831-2261, 831-1141

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

CARS FOR RENT

HiAce L300 Urvan 8257135

IT/ Hiace 9136710/4333682

L300 T 4161105 / 7411356

MB100 Hi-Ace Starex 9483535

SELFDRIVE or w/driver ALL BRAND OF CARS & VANS ABC-5388822 & 3039789

STAREX L3 9121809/7268388

•Car;Vans4535288;9296250

WANTED TO BUY

DUYING USED CARS 8990215

CAR LOAN

2% w/oTaking Car 3646928

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

1.5% Fast Car Loan 3670169

2% w/o taking car 7262780

2% w/o Taking Car 3670169

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

PETS

LABRADOR 09179770939

SPORTING GOODS

Billiard P25T & P30T New Accept C.Card • 781-9453

BILLIARD TABLE
BBRUNSWICK STYLE P 31,000
KANGAROO STYLE
AUTO BALL RETURN
CASH OR INSTALLEMT
FIREBALL-365-4064/418-4345

B.Table B'new/Accessories •(02)8014494/8020566•

STRIKEMASTER
Bowling & Billiards
Sales & Rentals T-9341569

WANTED TO BUY

B/SELL FUL PD EDUC PLAN Gie 7137284•09177939632

BUYING ROLEX
others, High Price CASH CALL 09178142309/7269687

Buy / Sell / Pawn / Repair
ROLEX
Tel# 804-0484 • 834-2886

MISCELLANEOUS

7.5/ 15/ 20 - KWA 3672002

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

Gen. Mgr Scty Agency 6313498

Maid 4 Foreigner 726-1266

ANNOUNCEMNENT

A fast growing real estate company needs brokers and agents to market a first class subdivision located at Morong, Rizal.

Interested parties may apply personally at:
Claveolla Estate and Development Corp.
Unit 108 Sunrise Condominium, Ortigas Avenue
Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila
Tel. Nos.: 725-1648; 724-9373

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

MALE

MALE CLERK • 638-3779

FEMALE

SALES CLERK
w/Exp., Computer Literate
920-5715 • 435-2511

MAIDS direct hire 8425736

Tutors 4 GS, HS 913-1038

MALE/FEMALE

CARE GIVER T5280722

Direct Hiring OFC STAFF. Call Erika at 7366660

★ IMMIGRATE ★
LIVE and WORK in Canada Australia 8175511/8944950

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

ATTN: REAL ESTATE PRACTITIONERS
The
REBAP Greenhills Chapter
invites you to attend a Continuing Education Program with 16-hour credit units
"KEEPING A COMPETITIVE EDGE IN THE REAL ESTATE PRACTICE"
March 17 and 24, 2001 (Saturdays) 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. MCR Rooms, Club Filipino Greenhills, San Juan
Call 915-5177 or 641-93-46
Fax 641-9346 or 671-4421
LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE

AUCTION SALE

MD Legaspi Pawnshop 727 J.P. Rizal St., Binangonan, Rizal unredeemed loans of Sept. 99 will be sold on March 12, 2001 8-10am MD Legaspi Pawnshop Angono Public Market Q. Ave. Ext. 10-12am Sons of J. Lanuza - Lic. Auctioneer

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

LOW & SLOW INCOME? TRIPLE YOUR MONEY IN 1YR 0917-4719372 (DAVE)

PUBLIC NOTICES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

TELEMARKETING 2477469

BANGUS ONLINE
Open for dealership
http://bonuanboneless
bangus.saleshopper.com 932-8059

EARN $ 2926137

•EARN FR HOME 8531008•

RTW Cash/Term 7299681

TShirt Fac.Price 4383147

PERA
Linggo-Linggo

Batching System
Period Covered:
Feb. 22-28, 2001

B-1 P 3,774.00/Unit
B-2 P 333.00/Unit

TGS Incentives
Group 31
Covering the period:
Feb. 22-28, 2001

Group	1-5	P87.70/Unit
Group	6-7	P72.50/Unit
Group	8	P57.70/Unit
Group	9	P39.00/Unit
Group	10	P37.20/Unit
Group	11	P30.90/Unit
Group	12	P29.40/Unit
Group	13	P20.00/Unit
Group	14-15	P18.10/Unit
Group	16	P13.60/Unit
Group	17-18	P13.40/Unit
Group	19	P11.10/Unit
Group	20-21	P10.00/Unit

FOR SUBSCRIBERS
Trillet
578-8398 / 578-8399
Fax 535-0652

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is given on the lost of CGCC Stock Certificate No. 0015 in the name of Michael R. Yniquez. If no contest received new certificate will be issued.
PDI--Feb. 21,28 Mar 7,2001

Notice of Loss
This is to inform to the public that shares of stocks at Far East Univ. registered in the name of Reynaldo S. Navarro was lost sent by mail specified as follows:

1 Cert#24838 1 Share
2 Cert#23087 1 Share
3 Cert#21839 2 Shares
4 Cert#10505 5 Shares

PDI--Feb. 21, 28 March 7, 2001

PERSONAL

THANK YOU HOLY SPIRIT

INQUIRER TRiViA

By BONG BARRAMEDA

Flight attendants

The world's first air 'hostesses' were in fact stewards. Before World War I, the mammoth Zeppelin airships of Germany already had staff on board. In 1919. at the beginning of commercial aviation, it was often the radio operators who served drinks or picnic-style meals. Then in 1927 the first stewards appeared on British Imperial Airways aircraft. It wasn't until 1930 that Boeing Air Transport, which was to become United Airlines, hired stewardesses for the first time. Ellen Church and seven other young women made up the first team on the San Francisco-Chicago route. In Europe, the first air hostess was Nelly Diener, a Swiss woman hired by Swissair in 1934.

Classified Odd. John Stearns became a pilot for Continental Airlines in 1984 after a 20-year US Air Force career that included flying 381 missions during the Vietnam War. In 1989, he told the airline that he was taking a leave to have a series of transexual operations in order to become Jessica Stearns. Continental promptly fired him/her, claiming that Stearns becoming a woman jeopardized cockpit and flight safety -- in other words, women can serve coffee but not fly planes. Stearns sued, and Continental settled, putting her in the driver's seat.

Past Forward. This day in 1917: The Victor Company released the first ever jazz phonograph record, spelling a new direction in American popular music. Recorded in New York by Nick La Rocca and his Original Dixieland Jazz Band, the disk was entitled "The Dixieland Jazz Band One-Step." The musicians were all from New Orleans, the birthplace of jazz, but they were all white, playing in a style learned from the city's black community.

WORD WATCH

Primo uomo (pree moh woh moh) : in opera, the lead male singer; equivalent of the female *prima donna.*

PDI -- March 7, 2001

Where the brightest people find the best jobs.

JOB ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

GIA
THAILAND CAMPUS

Gemological Institute of America

World's #1 gemological institute
70 year history of excellence in education
over 300,000 students worldwide

Become a recognized professional in the gem and jewelry industry

Diamonds Diploma Program starts April 23, 2001

GIA Thailand Campus

Tel: (662) 237-9575 to 77 Fax: (662) 236-9829
giathai@ksc15.th.com www.giathailand.com

National Power Corporation

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY AND TO BID
AD NO. PD 2001-14

Rebidding Date: March 16, 2001 - 10:00 AM

PB010202-T3JR5783	WELDING ELECTRODE
PB010226-T3JR5859	PAINT/PRESS BOARD/SEALANT/PENETRATING OIL
PB010226-T3JR5862	SWIMMING POOL CHEMICALS
PB010226-T3JR5863	SPORTS UNIFORM for GCAA Duckpin/Tennis Tournament with NPC and GCAA logo

****Bidding Date: March 26, 2001**

2001-14-01	MOBILE RADIO, UHF/FM Field 403-433 MHz
2001-14-02	DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMER, 25 KVA, Single Phase, 60 cycle
2001-14-03	WELDING ELECTRODE/FILLER METAL
2001-14-04	SHAFTING BAR, 125 mm x 3 m L
2001-14-05	PRINTER HEAD for Datamax Prodigy Plus
2001-14-06	SAFETY MATERIALS (Working Clothes, Shoes, Safety Caps, Air Filled Ear Plugs)

Interested parties are invited to prequalify and to submit sealed bids on the above to be opened publicly at the Sampaguita Room, Ground Floor, Building 2, NPC-OBC, Quezon Avenue corner Agham Road, Diliman, Quezon City.

Accreditation forms can be obtained from Mondays thru Fridays at the Accreditation and Bidding Support Services, Materials Management Department, Ground Floor, Building 2 upon payment of P50.00, submission of company's TIN and proof of listing at the telephone directory. **Deadline for submission of duly accomplished forms on March 15, 2001.

Bidding documents available on March 8, 2001 upon payment of P50.00 which is non-refundable, presentation of original Certificate of Accreditation and supplier's number (DCE). **Last day of issuance of bidding documents March 21, 2001

Issuance of accreditation forms and bidding documents mornings only, 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM. For inquiries please call no. 921-25-74.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the Corporation

MATERIALS MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT
NPC-OBC (Head Office)
Diliman, Quezon City

(PDI -- Mar. 7,8 & 9, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL POWER CORPORATION
Generation Company 1

INVITATION TO BID

GENCO 1-01-001 (PBT)

The Generation Company 1, with office at NPC Old Building, 161 Bonifacio Drive, Port Area, Manila invites interested LICENSED CUSTOMS BROKERS TO APPLY FOR ACCREDITATION AND TO BID IN THE PUBLIC BIDDING FOR LONG TERM BROKERAGE SERVICES for NPC importations arriving from April 1, 2001 to March 30, 2002 for Air and Ocean carriers.

The services required cover clearance of cargo from Customs custody and delivery to various NPC destinations within Metro Manila and other designated delivery points in Luzon.

The schedule of activities in connection with the public bidding is as follows:

Issuance of Bid Documents	- March 01, 2001 - March 21, 2001
Pre-Bid Conference	- March 12, 2001 at 2:00 PM
Bidding Date/Time	- March 22, 2001 at 10:00 AM
Bidding Place	- MMD Bidding Room Ground Floor, Port Area, Manila

Prequalification/Accreditation forms shall be available to non-accredited customs brokers during working days from 8:00 AM to 12:00 noon. These forms shall be submitted and approved by the Accreditation Committee before they are allowed to participate in the bidding.

Bid documents shall be issued to accredited customs brokers from the Materials Management Division upon payment of P200.00 per schedule which is non-refundable.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or informality contained therein and accept the bids considered most advantageous to the Corporation.

For further information, please contact tel. nos. 527-48-78 and 527-48-80 loc. 242 and 228.

(Sgd.) LORNA T. DY
Officer-In-Charge
Regional Adm. & Financial Svcs.

(PDI--March 7 & 10, 2001)

The best jobs are in JOB ONLINE
www.jobmarketonline.com

OBITUARIES

I am not
praying for the
world, but for
those you have
given me, for
they are yours.
John 17:9

"Apang"

MARIO SAMAR PRECILLA

Peacefully joined his Creator and Mamang on March 5, 2001 at the age of 93.

His children **Dom and Mina, Pitoy (†) and Dina, Menchie and Tony, Emie and Olie, Jim and Myrna, Emil and Joan,** and other relatives request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies at the Sacred Heart Parish Church, Scout Fuentebella, Kamuning, Quezon City.

Interment to be announced later.

3rd Death Anniversary

Juan Crisostomo G. Padua
"Johnny"

WENT HOME TO THE LORD
ON MARCH 7, 1998
AT HAVELOCK, N.C., USA

... When all my labors and trials are over,
And I am safe on that beautiful shore;
Just to be near the dear Lord I adore,
Will through the ages be glory for me...

His mortal remains lie at Pio del Pilar Shrine, Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park in Quezon City.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE

LOYOLA MEMORIAL PARK PARAÑAQUE

Wishes to announce its promo for
FAMILY ESTATES & MEMORIAL COURTS
15% downpayment, 0% interest 1 year to pay.
Also available premium lawn lots

Please call Gilbert or Tina
8103594 8182083 8180785 8125679 8180689

INOCENTES G. ABUDA, SR.

December 28, 1932 - March 3, 2001

His wife **Bernarda**; children **Leo, Jonas** and **Rose, Jerivic, Tito, Dindo, Maimai, Anzie**; and his grandchildren request the reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

The body lies in state at their residence in Guiuan, Samar.

Interment will be in Guiuan, Samar on Saturday, March 11, 2001.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

INQUIRER OBITUARIES

• DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT • MESSAGE OF THANKS •
• DEATH ANNIVERSARY • REQUIEMS • FREE OBIT DESIGN •

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST
Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City
Tels. 640-2145 • 640-2975 • 641-1760
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch:
A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City
Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258
DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688;
413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086;
(047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City
Tel. 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St.,
Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133
Fax No. 711-3084
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812983; 2813034; 2810522
FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 322-5247 ; (045) 888-2959
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City;
Tels. 646-1725/1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila
Tels. 642-8181 to 82

HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City Tels. 825-1298, 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730; Cell (0917) 5680136 ; (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City;
Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1501 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila;
Tels. 711-6931 to 35, 732-4795
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
Tels. 749-3806 to 11
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City
Tel. (074) 443-3337
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City
Tel. 895-1011 to 19
MARIAN MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Marcos Hiway, Antipolo, Rizal
Tels. 645-1855; 682-0209; 682-0210
MT. SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL
Arellano St., Dagupan City
Tels. (075) 515-5960; 515-6529; (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
284 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St.
Mandalagan, Bacolod City Tel. 433-7132
RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-1204
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City
Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
298 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286 / 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS: ① Copy of Death Certificate ② Any Identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

Inquirer's Makati Branch

SAN LORENZO VILLAGE
EDSA
PASEO DE ROXAS
ATRIUM BLDG.
MANDARIN
PARKING LOT
OLYMPIA
MAKATI AVENUE
AYALA

NOW in Atrium!

Classified Ads
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Ground Floor, Atrium Bldg.,
Makati Avenue,
Makati City
New Tel. Nos. 811-4370 / 811-4361
811-4012 / 892-5578

FRUSTRATION

Japan in critical recession, Miyazawa says

TOKYO—Japanese Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said yesterday the economy was in a severe recession and voiced his frustration over the country's doggedly depressed consumer spending.

"No matter what I say, the economy is in critical recession," Miyazawa told a lower house budget committee in a remarkable departure from the government line up to now that the economy is on the path to gradual recovery.

"The reality is our household spending is not recovering. Facing such a reality, we just cannot keep saying it will take some time" until the economy recovers, Miyazawa said.

"The government needs to do something," he said.

The finance minister said capital spending by companies steadily recovered, but the United States' consumer spending remained depressed contrary to his early expectations.

"Capital spending by the private sector has swiftly recovered. But gains in capital activity have yet to trickle down to individual households," he said.

On Feb. 16 the Cabinet Office, formerly known as the Economic Planning Agency, downgraded the government's key economic assessment, but still maintained that the economy was headed for a self-sustaining recovery.

"The pace of economic recovery has become more moderate," the Cabinet Office said in its February report.

It added, however, that "the move toward self-sustained recovery has continued, as shown by rising corporate profits and business investment." *AFP*

Politicians propose to re-denominate yen

TOKYO—Japan's ruling politicians floated yesterday the idea of lopping two zeros off the face value of the yen as part of a package of steps aimed at propping up the world's second largest economy.

The package, to be unveiled by the end of the week, is also expected to include measures to support the ailing stock market, which has tumbled in line with the US Nasdaq index and a flood of chronically weak domestic economic data.

"Right now, we are seeing an economic downturn amid weakening prices," Economics Minister Taro Aso told reporters.

The plan to re-denominate the yen, which would turn 100 yen into a new one yen unit, has been periodically touted for years as a way of raising the international status of the currency and of sparking spending on computer systems to handle the change.

The idea has, in the past, failed to win support from finance officials skeptical about its usefulness and worried about the costs such a major overhaul could entail.

Finance Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said yesterday he was not thinking at all about a possible re-denomination. But the government's top spokesman, Yasuo Fukuda, said re-denomination was "basically not a bad idea."

Miyazawa and Fukuda were reacting to a report in financial daily Nihon Keizai Shimbun that said the measure was under consideration by the Liberal Democratic Party, the dominant member of the three-way ruling coalition.

The newspaper added it was uncertain whether re-denomination would be included in the stimulus package as it was opposed by the LDP's two coalition partners—the Buddhist-backed New Komeito and the New Conservative Party.

The flurry of policy proposals is being driven by mounting anxiety that Japan is trapped in a vicious circle, with economic weakness and deflation driving down stock prices that, in turn, exposes the fragility of banks and further impedes recovery.

The stock market's benchmark Nikkei 225 average, which last week slumped to 15-year lows, rebounded 1.76 percent on Tuesday morning on the back of a stronger Wall Street and gains by high-tech exporters benefiting from a soft yen.

"Share prices are falling, the economy is currently in quite a precarious situation. The question is why, and we think it's because the slow pace of structural reforms," said an official of a government committee meeting on Tuesday to discuss regulatory changes.

With the market around current levels, most banks no longer have paper gains on their huge equity holdings that they can cash in to pay for writing off non-performing loans.

In an indication of the strains, Financial Services Minister Hakuo Yanagisawa said on Tuesday that debt-laden banks were increasingly reluctant to lend to weaker companies.

Yanagisawa said he would meet bankers next week to cajole them to ensure that small and medium-sized firms—one of the LDP's main pillars of support—get the cash they needed to tide them over the end of the financial year on March 31.

Bank analysts were convinced the government needs to pump more capital into the banks on top of 9.5 trillion yen ($79.72 billion) that it injected in 1997 and 1998 as part of emergency measures to stabilize the financial system.

But Yanagisawa told the budget committee of parliament's Upper House that he saw no need for a fresh bailout.

As well as measures to help the stock market, for instance, by relaxing rules governing share buy-backs by companies, LDP officials are discussing steps to stop a decade-long slide in land prices by increasing liquidity in the property market. *Reuters*

China sees large rise in unemployment

BEIJING—China's urban unemployment would rise to 4 percent this year as the government scrambled to create jobs for laid-off workers from state firms, State Planning Minister Zeng Peiyan said yesterday.

"Pressure to (expand) employment efforts is mounting in urban areas as more than six million workers laid off from state-owned enterprises have not yet found jobs," Zeng told delegates on the second day of the annual meeting of China's parliament, the National People's Congress.

China's urban unemployment would rise by 1.9 million people to a total of 8.5 million unemployed by the end of the 2001, according to Zeng's 4-percent target.

Many economists say China's official unemployment rate is unrealistically low, with the state not counting large swathes of redundant workers in the urban state-owned work force, while tens of millions of rural workers are also looking for jobs in cities.

Unemployment statistics have long been considered politically sensitive, with China maintaining a zero-percent unemployment rate for much of its period of planned economics before 1978. *AFP*

A HOMELESS man extinguishes a cigarette as he and many other homeless sunbathe at a park in Tokyo's Shinjuku business district. Amid Japan's stumbling economy, with a record-high unemployment rate of 4.9 percent, the number of homeless people increases around the city's major parks. AP

US Feb. job cut announcements soar

NEW YORK—Job cuts announced by US companies almost tripled in February from year-ago levels, a research group said Monday in a report that signaled employers were losing confidence in the slowing US economy.

International outplacement firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas said US firms announced 101,731 layoffs in February, up from 35,415 a year ago when the economy was roaring ahead at full speed.

But the latest layoffs were down 28 percent from January's total of 142,208, which was the highest number of monthly planned job cuts in the survey's eight-year history.

Wall Street analysts said while the report showed employers were getting ready to cut costs as the economy stalled, it was an unreliable indicator of actual labor market conditions.

"This report is important in terms of setting confidence and direction but not that good for judging economic activity," said Steve Ricchiuto, chief US economist at ABN Amro in New York. "Announcements often come well ahead and often they do not materialize."

Moreover, not all the layoffs will hit the US labor markets. Huge multinational corporations also have operations outside the United States where they are unhampered by union contracts and costly severance provisions, analysts say.

Financial markets were little moved by the latest layoff data, preferring to wait for the widely watched US monthly employment report due on Friday. This was expected to show non-farm sector payrolls rose by just 62,000 in February versus a rise of 268,000 in January.

According to the Challenger report, since the start of December 2000, planned job cuts had totaled 377,652 compared to 130,752 during the same three-month period a year ago.

"The extraordinary three-month job cutting binge is hard evidence that a slowdown is occurring," said John Challenger, chief executive at Challenger, Gray & Christmas. "Even during the heavy 1990s corporate downsizing, we did not see monthly figures like this."

The Challenger report followed a rash of US corporate layoffs announced in recent weeks.

Chrysler, the struggling unit of DaimlerChrysler AG, said Friday it was permanently laying off about 2,700 white-collar workers as part of its plan to reverse massive losses.

The layoffs, which will take place by the end of March, are to meet Chrysler's goal of cutting about 5,000 salaried workers to save $2.5 billion over the next three years. In late January, the company said it would cut 20 percent of its global workforce, with 10 percent of those cuts coming in Mexico.

A day earlier, glass and fiber optics maker Corning Inc. said it would lay off 825 workers at its photonics manufacturing facilities because of decreased demand from the softened telecommunications industry.

Voice and data services company WorldCom Inc. on Wednesday laid off about 6,000 workers, or about 6 to 7 percent of its global workforce, in a move to cut costs ahead of its restructuring.

According to the Challenger report, the automotive sector has led industries so far this year with 57,656 job cut announcements, including 22,697 in February. Telecommunication firms had 42,879 planned layoffs during the first two months of the year, while retailers have announced 26,733 job cuts.

E-commerce companies said they planned to cut 21,383 jobs so far in 2001, and computer companies said they were trimming 16,242 jobs. *Reuters*

Avaya sees 20% sales hike in Asia-Pacific

By Anthony O. Alcantara

AVAYA Inc., a company spun off last year by telephone equipment provider Lucent Technologies, forecast yesterday a 20-percent increase in sales in the Asia-Pacific region this year.

Avaya Philippines country director Edgar Doctolero said sales growth in the Philippines would also be at a 20-percent rate.

Doctolero reported that Avaya currently controlled 46 percent of the call-center business in the region and 60 percent of the total market for structured cabling. The company had, as clients, half of the country's biggest banks, he said.

"The Philippine business environment is currently stepping up the level of sophistication of their voice and data networks," he said.

"Avaya has a suite of working solutions on hand that effectively meets priority business requirements. We support the networking needs across an entire enterprise via any media, be they voice, data, video, converged voice-data or IP telephony," Doctolero told reporters.

He declined to give specific figures for the Philippines or the region, but reported worldwide revenues of $7.4 billion in its last fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2000.

In the first quarter of fiscal year 2001, the company said it posted revenues of $1.785 billion, up 3.4 percent year-on-year.

The company has embarked on a marketing campaign among Asia-Pacific countries to increase business in the region.

It yesterday launched its integrated suite of Internet Protocol solutions called "Enterprise Class IP Solutions," or Eclips. The suite brings together voice and data networks into one converged network, resulting in streamlined communications, simplified network administration and the ideal platform for the needs of companies in the Philippines.

Everything changes, even money

Next New Year s Day, almost 300 million Europeans will begin sharing a common currency as euro coins and notes become legal tender in 12 of the 15 European Union countries.

Currency	Units to Euro Official exchange rate	Units to U.S. dollar Rate as of March 2, 2001
Austrian schilling	13.760300	14.73110
Belgian franc	40.339900	43.18000
German mark	1.955830	2.09380
Spanish peseta	166.386000	178.11600
Finnish markka	5.945730	6.36460
French franc	6.559570	7.02230
Greek drachma	340.677000	364.75100
Irish punt	0.787564	0.84317
Italian lira	1,936.270000	2,072.87000
Luxembourg franc	40.339900	46.27000
Dutch guilder	2.203710	2.35900
Portuguese escudo	200.482000	214.60300

SOURCES: Pacific Exchange Rate Service; European Central Bank AP

Business or pleasure?
What do you
DEZIRE?
Sauza
ZAZ
TAKES YOU TO THE EDGE
DRINK MODERATELY

Intel trims PC chip prices

SANTA CLARA, California—Chip-making giant Intel Corp. has cut prices by as much as 19 percent on some of its processors used in desktop computers, with smaller markdowns for top-of-the line Pentium 4 models.

The cuts, which took effect Sunday and were confirmed by the company Monday, came as inventories build and demand for new computers slowed.

Intel slashed the price of its 800-megahertz Celeron to $112 from $138, a 19-percent decline. The 766-MHz Celeron dropped 8 percent to $103 from $112.

Its 1-gigahertz Pentium 3, meanwhile, now costs $241 compared to $268 before the price cut. The 933-MHz model fell 7 percent to $225 from $241.

The new Pentium 4's prices also fell, though at much lower rates. The 1.5-GHz Pentium 4's price dropped one percent to $637 from $644. The 1.4-GHz model went to $423 from $440 and the 1.3-GHz version fell to $332 from $336.

The new prices apply to wholesale purchases in lots of 1,000.

Intel last adjusted its prices in January and such moves were common in the semiconductor industry.

"Our strategy is to align the prices of the individual products to the individual markets," said Bill Calder, an Intel spokesman. *AP*

GSK sticks by patent rights

LONDON—British pharmaceuticals giant GlaxoSmithKline insisted Monday that its patents had to be respected despite a furious row over its policy on sales of expensive drugs, including HIV treatments, to developing and poor countries.

As a landmark court case defending patents opened in South Africa, the company said any ruling that infringed its patents would harm its ability to develop drugs.

"The position of the industry is clearly that the patent system must be maintained," said GSK spokesman Phil Thomson.

"Patents must be maintained throughout the world, otherwise you won't be able to invest the massive amount of money that is required to do research and development in the future," Thomson said.

Thomson was speaking as 39 pharmaceutical companies, including GSK, launched a court case in Pretoria to fight a 1997 law that would allow South Africa to import or produce cheap generic anti-AIDS drugs.

The legal battle over whether South Africa can import cut-price versions of generic treatments rather than the more expensive brand drugs could have repercussions for millions of people-in poor countries. *AFP*

TAKE THAT!
MAKE YOUR MOVE.
TAKE ON THE WORLD.
NEW

The GEM Series

DMP-CD100 MP3 Base CD Player

- Audio -CD, MP3 CD-R Player, with LCD Display
- Batteries included • 10-seconds Electronic Shock Protection (ESP), Manual + Stereo Earphones included

@ PhP6,600 (U.P PhP11,570)

The ZAP Series

DSC-350 Dual Mode Camera

- Use as Web and Digital Camera • Up to 4.5 mins video
- Up to 500 photos (160 x 120dpi)
- Resolution: 1024 x 768, 640 x 480, 320 x 240, 160 x 120
- Free software, cable, batteries, pouch & hand strap

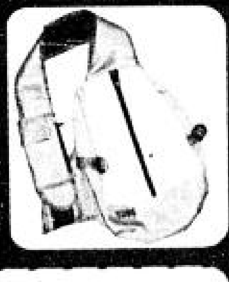
@ PhP8,450

DMP-100 @ PhP 5,900

The GEM Series MP3 Player with 32 MB Flash Memory and built-in Voice Recorder

Buy now & get a foldable Plier FREE!

MP3 Player/Recorder



Buy a DMP-CD100 or a DSC-350 now & get a Sling bag FREE!

All promotions valid while stocks last!

WIN

A DMP-CD100 Player

Note:
To participate, just fill in the coupon and fax to D-Link @ 1800-1651-0246 or access our website @ www.dlink.com.ph

Name: ____________________
Designation: ____________________ Nature
Company: ____________________ of Business: ____________________
Address: ____________________
Tel: ____________________ Fax: ____________________
Email: ____________________

Terms & Conditions
- An individual is entitled to only one entry • A maximum of 3 entries per company
- Incomplete forms will be disqualified • This program is valid till March 31, 2001
- Winner will be notified by email

D-Link is Ranked SOURCE: IDC, 1H 2000

No. 1 (in unit terms) in Ethernet NIC category in Philippines for the period of Q2 2000.

No. 2 (in port terms) in the combined Ethernet and Fast Ethernet Fixed Port Unmanaged Hub category in Philippines for the period of 1H 2000.

No. 2 (in unit terms) in the combined Ethernet and Fast Ethernet NIC category in Philippines for the period of 1H 2000.

ALL THAT YOU'VE WANTED! D-Link®

DIGITAL HOME SOLUTIONS
http://www.dlink.com.ph

AUTHORISED DISTRIBUTORS

AMERICAN TECHNOLOGIES INC.	Tel: (02)723-0601 to 12 Fax: (02)723-7951
PHIL-DATA BUSINESS SYSTEMS, INC.	Tel: (02)781-0581 Fax: (02)731-2008
UPLINK INFORMATION SYSTEMS, INC.	Tel: (02)892-7738/8173, 752-4205 to 07 Fax: (02)817-2072

PARTICIPATING RESELLERS:

BACOLOD CITY(+034):	
BCG COMPUTER CENTER	434-2532/2539
IECC COMPUTERS	434-3249/433-9472
CEBU(+032):	
CBX CORPORATION	346-1461/1463
THINKING TOOLS	254-2227
ILOILO CITY (+33)	
COCEPT COMPUTER	335-0753
LAS PINAS CITY (+02)	
HURRICANE MICROSYSTEM	806-4211/6154
LEGAZPI CITY(+052):	
ALL ELECTRONICS ENTERPRISES	480-6011/6512
MAKATI CITY(+02):	
ELECTROWORLD	892-0395/6324
MANDALUYONG CITY(+02):	
BROCHIERE MEGAMALL	633-8221/2173
MANILA(+02):	
DREAMCHUM COMPUTER	536-2816/522-7420
SVC ENTERPRISES	522-8201/02
NAGA CITY(+054):	
ALL ELECTRONICS ENTERPRISES	811-3624/25
PASIQ CITY(+02):	
THE COMPUTER AUTHORITY	637-1200
QUEZON CITY(+02):	
COMPLINK	920-9140/41
DIAMOND DREAMCHUM COMPUTER	411-5911 to 31
NEXGEN MICROSYSTEM	725-4383/85
PC OPTION	415-1488-89
SILICON VALLEY COMPUTER CENTER	371-5611 to 20
SAN JUAN(+02):	
ABC COMPUTER	722-5151/726-8807
BELTRON COMPUTERS	724-8045/721-6776
NEW ASIA COMPUTER WORLD	725-0442-46
UNIVERSAL COMPUTER	724-8391/725-5997

Classified Advertising Division
Main Office: PASONG TAMO, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8972535 (Direct) ☎ 8978808 (Trunk) Fax 974808
G/F ATRIUM BLDG., MAKATI AVENUE, MAKATI CITY
☎ 8114361 ☎ 8114370 ☎ 8114012 Fax 8925578
ALI MALL, CUBAO, QUEZON CITY
☎ 912-9008-11 Fax 912-9011
SM MEGAMALL, MANDALUYONG CITY
☎ 6350219 ☎ 6372008 Fax 6350220
G/F TRINITY BLDG., 636 T.M. KALAW ST., ERMITA, MANILA
☎ 5273342 ☎ 5280183 ☎ 5276357 Fax 5280213
ALABANG, MUNTINLUPA CITY
☎ 8506465 Fax 8506465
e-mail address: main_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph

OBITUARIES

RATE
P230 per column centimeter
(All prices exclusive of E-VAT)

DEADLINE
for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Monday to Sunday
12:00 noon
Day before publication

Our Dearly Beloved

ROSENDO R. MARQUEZ

March 1, 1917 - March 4, 2001

FORMER PACD & DILG SECRETARY

Peacefully joined our Lord on March 4, 2001
in Sparrow Hospital Lansing, Michigan.

We, his loving family - wife **FLORENTINA** (†); children and in-laws **MELY** and **ROGER CUYNO**, **FLOR** and **RUBEN LAZARO**, **VIRGIE** (†) and **ART ATILES**, **MANNY** and **ELSIE**, **ROSE** and **RONIE LIM**, **BERT** and **LYIA**, **BABETTE** and **SAMIE NARCISE**; his grandchildren **NOEL**, **LEAH** and **MARK FINA**, **MAIRA**, **MICHELLE** and **JUN-JUN**, **CHITOT'S** and **JOJO**, **ERIC**, **JUN-JUN** and **RYAN**, **JEN-JEN** and **MIMI**, **MARCKY** and **MARIZ**, **LEMUEL**, **ANGELO** and **MELISSA**; great grandchild **PAULO**; brother **EPITACIO**; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for his eternal repose.

His remains will be cremated in East Lansing, Michigan. Mass is being offered everyday at St. Michael Chapel, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

In Loving Memory
on the
Third Death Anniversary
of

FILOMENA L. CONTRERAS

November 22, 1906 - March 7, 1998

Holy Masses will be offered today, March 7, 2001
at the following churches:

Family Mausoleum	Manila Memorial Park Sucat, Parañaque	4:00 PM
Santuario de San Antonio	Forbes Park, Makati City	7:30 AM
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori	Magallanes Village, Makati City	7:00 AM
Our Lady of the Abandoned	Sta. Ana, Manila	6:30 AM
Santuario de San Jose	Greenhills, San Juan	7:15 AM 6:15 AM
Mary, The Queen	Madison Street, San Juan	7:00 AM
St. Joseph Parish	Project 3, Quezon City	7:00 AM
Immaculate Conception Parish	Lantana Street, Cubao Quezon City	7:00 AM
Christ the King Seminary	Eulogio Rodriguez, Quezon City	7:00 AM
San Sebastian Cathedral	Lipa City, Batangas	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church	Lipa City, Batangas	6:00 AM
Don Bosco Parish Church	Pasay Road, Makati City	7:00 AM

We, her Family, request relatives, friends and pious readers to join us in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

MESSAGE OF THANKS

We, the family of the late

RAFAEL G. SOLIS

of Medicion, Imus, Cavite

Who died in the Grace of our Lord on February 16, 2001 at the age of 63.

Wish to convey our heartfelt and sincerest appreciation to all those who showed love and concern, offered comfort, extended support and condoled with us in our moment of sorrow by way of your presence, prayers, donations, flowers, notes of sympathy and many other countless ways.

Your thoughtfulness at this time of sorrow in our family meant a lot to all of us.

May the Good Lord continue to bless you all.

FELIPE Y. GARCIA

"Phil"

Ateneo HS Class 54, of Manila and Danao City, Cebu

Has joined his Creator on March 1, 2001, at the age of 63,
in Raleigh, North Carolina.

His bereaved wife **LOURDES (Dudy) DUTERTE**; children **CONRADO GONZALO (Boom)**, **JOSE ANTONIO (Coy-Coy)** and **CITADEL Ventura**, and **JUAN CARLOS (Caloy)**; sisters **LETICIA** and **Eladio Adriano**, **JUANITA** and **Anacleto** (†) **del Rosario**; brothers **GONZALO** (†) and **Irma Gutierrez**, and **MANUEL** (†) and **Francisca Acuna**, other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for his eternal repose.

His remains lie in state at the Sto. Tomas Parish Church in Danao City, Cebu.

Interment will be on Saturday, March 10, 2001 at the Danao City Catholic Cemetery, after the 11:00 AM Mass at the Sto. Tomas Parish Church.

"My soul finds rest to God alone;
from Him comes my salvation."
Psalms 62:2

Our Dearly Beloved Mother

ELVIRA S. BARRAQUIAS

1927-2001

Now peacefully rests in the infinite Grace and Goodness of the Lord on the 4th of March 2001 at the age of 74.

Her loving husband **Julius, Sr.** (†); children and children-in-law **Oniet** and **Otie**, **Bernie** and **Abel**, **Chuck** and **James**, **Jojo** and **Bing**, **Jack** and **Baby**, **Sheila**, and **July** and **Ricky**; grandchildren **Nino**, **Jay Carl**, **Ramie**, **Christa**, **RJ**, **Vincent**, **Bienne**, **Jerone**, **Enzo**, **Christopher**, **Jackie**, **Jay-Jay**, **Julius** and **Trixie**; other relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Paket Memorial Homes at Santiago Memorial Chapels, 13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City (near Our Lady of the Abandoned Church).

Funeral Mass will be on Saturday, March 10, 2001.

Cremation services will follow at 1:00 p.m. at the Marikina Loyola Memorial Chapels Crematorium. Interment will follow at Loyola Memorial Park, Marikina at 3:30 p.m.

"Happy are those who have died in the Lord; Let them rest from their labors for their good deeds go with them."
Rev. 14:13

CELIA ARCE IGNACIO BANTA

of Calapan, Oriental Mindoro

Passed into Eternal Light on March 6, 2001 at the age of 83.

Her husband **Col. Antonio Banta**; children and spouses **KT-Joemay**, **Meth-Butch**, **Nor-Gerry**, **Ramon-Leah**, **Manette**, and grandchildren remember her with love and joy for this triumphant cross-over to God's everlasting life.

Her body lies in state at the La Funeraria Paz, Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Saturday, March 10, 2001 at Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque after the 1:00 p.m. service.

Aristeo R. Ramos, M.D.

Died on March 5, 2001 at the age of 45.

His bereaved wife **Dr. Gracita R. Ramos**; daughter **Ariana**; brother **Dom**; sister **Zeny**; brother-in-law **Jun**; sister-in-law **Charit**; relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels, G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be at the North Cemetery on March 8, 2001 after the 2:00 p.m. Mass at Sto. Domingo Church.

We know that God raised the Lord Jesus from death. He will raise us to life with Jesus. He will present us, along with you, to God

Matthew 11:28

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
Whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life;
Of whom shall I be afraid?

Psalm 27:1

We, the Board of Directors, Associates and Staff of

Calderon Reading Workshop Inc., Manila and Singapore
Clemente Capital Inc., New York, New York
Clemente Capital Asia Inc., Beijing,
People's Republic of China
Clemente Holdings Inc., Manila
Evergreen Communications, Vallejo City, California
Panahon and Panahon, MD, Buffalo, New York
Radiation Oncology Group, Buffalo, New York
Davao Oncology Center, Davao City

join the family of our Beloved Role Model, Mentor and Adviser in their bereavement of

JOSE D. CALDERON

Delegate, 1971 Constitutional Convention
Member, 1986 Constitutional Commission

We thank Mr. Calderon for making a difference in our lives.

His remains lie in state at Ellinwood Malate Church, 1660 A. Vasquez Street, Malate, Manila.

Interment will be on March 9, 2001 (Friday) at the Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque after the 9:30 a.m. memorial service. We extend our condolences to his family and loved ones and enjoin the pious readers for his eternal repose.

People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

E-MAIL: aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph
sprojects@inquirer.com.ph

RM Foundation urges youth to honor real-life heroes

THE RAMON Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF) exhorts college and high school students to inculcate the "greatness of spirit" and to "honor the living heroes of Asia" with the launch Feb. 27 of the 2001 Ramon Magsaysay Student Essay Writing Competition.

Graced by RMAF trustees chair Vitaliano Nanagas II, vice chair Jaime Zobel de Ayala II, treasurer Ambassador Bienvenido Tan, president Carmencita Abella, and Senator Ramon Magsaysay Jr., the launch highlights the thrust to honor exemplary individuals who—regardless of race, gender or religion—have displayed greatness of spirit in service to the people.

Ramon Magsaysay was one of the most beloved Philippine Presidents. His life's work inspired philanthropist John D. Rockefeller III to honor people who embody Magsaysay's "greatness of spirit" by creating RMAF. Through an endowment from the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, the award was inaugurated on Aug. 31, 1958.

Last year, a total of 1,630 entries from college and high schools nationwide wrote about RMAF awardees who inspired them the most. Of the 216 past awardees, Red Cross crusader Rosa Rosal was the most written about, followed by Mother Teresa of Calcutta, and former president Corazon C. Aquino.

"This is one activity of the foundation directly geared at offering today's youth an opportunity to discover the men and women who have displayed exemplary valor and compassion in their everyday lives, and at the same time demonstrate the same selfless leadership in their own lives," said RMAF president Carmencita Abella.

The contest is open to all bonafide high school and college students and will be classified into regional clusters: Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and the National Capital Region. The grand prize includes P100,000 and a personal computer for each of the regional prize winners and their respective schools. All entries must be original essays in English, with about 500 to 1,000 words. Deadline for submission is July 15.

For details, contact the RM Student Essay Writing Competition secretariat at 893-5690 or e-mail essay@rmaf.org.ph.

FGU LAUNCHES WEBSITE

FGU Insurance Corporation, one of the country's largest non-life insurance companies, recently launched the country's first, fully transactional, fully automated and secure website, fguonline.com. The site boasts of features designed to give customers and business partners increased access to FGU's insurance products, and a higher level of efficiency and service. Present during the launch were (from left): FGU marketing director Herbert Tuason; Ayala Corporation president Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala II; deputy insurance commissioner Vida Chiong; Civil Service Commission chair Corazon Alma de Leon; Universal Reinsurance Corporation President Herminia, Jacinto; Ayala Insurance Companies President Alfonso L. Salcedo, Jr., and Bank of the Philippine Islands president Xavier P. Loinaz.

CEO BREAKFAST FORUM

Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, a full-service management and consultancy firm, recently hosted their 14th CEO Breakfast Forum with the theme, "Leadership Challenges in Changing Times." It was a morning of sharing, learning and networking for CEOs and executive business leaders on how leadership development programs are implemented and sustained in their respective companies. Guest speakers for the event were Peter Wallace, president of EIU Phils.; Carlos Ejercito, president of United Laboratories; Freddie Fernandez, president of Team Pacific Corporation; Jonathan Gurango, managing director for Asia of Great Plains; Ricardo Pascua, president and CEO of Fort Bonifacio Development Corporation and Renato Vergel De Dios, president and CEO of Manulife Philippines, Inc., Tita Puangco, president and CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, also presented to the group a leadership development curriculum being developed for the Ancilla Asia Leadership Center. One of the guests during the forum is Marixi Prieto, chair of the Inquirer, pictured here with Renato Puangco, chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting.

BRENT SCHOOL
Baguio City
Philippines

BRENT IN BAGUIO FLOWER FEST

Brent School Baguio participated in the recently concluded Penagbenga 2001 Flower Festival. Students, parents, faculty and staff joined the street parade. Although the school was not an official entrant in the competition, its students still donned national costumes and carried flags representing the different nationalities at Brent. Some also unfurled banners with themes in line with the festival while others gave away flowers to the crowd.

FEEDING PROGRAM IN BULACAN

Nestlé Philippines, Inc. (NPI) Alay Kapwa volunteers from its Pulilan factory recently visited orphanages and other institutions in Bulacan. They visited the Nazareth Home for Streetchildren and the Emmaus Home for the Sick and Aged in Malolos, the Bethlehem Home for Streetchildren and Drug Dependents in Baliwag, the Bethany Home for Malnourished Children in Guiguinto, and the Galilee Community for Drug Dependents, Orphans and Aged. In addition to these institutions, the Alay Kapwa team, accompanied by Lingkod Lingap sa Nayon leader Debbie Vicente, also visited Bgy. Tibag. The volunteers gave food and clothing to the residents.

MURDOCH MBA

Murdoch students gather around Dr. Kent Zumawalt, professor of finance, Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia during one of their case discussions. The students are expected to earn their MBA degrees from Murdoch University by the third quarter of 2001. Murdoch University has been recognized as the best teaching campus in Australia having scored the highest remarks of 5-Stars for Student Satisfaction by the Good Universities Guide for five years in a row. It came to Manila following several years of offering its Business programs in Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan, Indonesia and China. All of the students are experienced executives, corporate CEOs, top management of listed companies and entrepreneurs. Enrolment for April 2001 is ongoing.

Empowered styling in and out of the gym

IT STARTED with aerobic classes and instructional home videos. Then came the step classes, aqua aerobics, lunch dates with the stairmaster and seaweed body wraps. We know that despite religiously abiding to those zany diets, our willpower wanes soon after. And no matter what we try, we know that it boils down to one crucial thing—a kick-ass workout.

Total fitness is more a balance between inner and outer body workout—achieving a yin and yang equilibrium. This has spurned an interest in alternative fitness concepts—from pilates, kick boxing, tai-chi, yoga to capoiera. Most recently when Drew, Lucy and Cameron kicked their way through the box office in sleek outfits they reminded us we can look good while straining our muscles.

Trying to dedicate a full hour at the gym doesn't come easy, especially with the hectic schedules we juggle. So sometimes it's about fitting in a 20-minute jog on the way to the mall. Spontaneity is all about seizing the moment and it doesn't happen when you're inappropriately dressed. Since we believe sports happens anytime and anywhere, your clothes have to be versatile; comfortable casual pieces that work harder and stretch better—helping you keep good form.

Nike Spring 2001 tech training collection redefines itself by offering a contemporary collection that easily doubles as casual wear. Updated styling through halter and spaghetti strap tops provides generous support while the Dri-FIT fabric transports perspiration away from your skin. These tops could easily be teamed with your capris for a relaxed look. To complete the look there are shorts and full-length pants in complimentary colors that hug the form while careful not to hinder movement.

So limber up to the idea that your workout ensemble should empower you. Total conditioning can be a pretty sight. For more information, log on to www.nikebiz.com.

APC to highlight power solutions at IT expo

AMERICAN Power Conversion (APC), a world leading provider of power protection and power manageability solutions, will participate as a major sponsor in Microsoft Philippines' much-awaited IT event in 2001 titled "The Microsoft Solutions Expo 2001," slated March 22 at the Ateneo Graduate School of Business in Rockwell, Makati City. The exposition is a two-in-one show that will feature some of today's prime movers in the local IT industry to speak at the event's Technet Conference, as well as showcase the latest technologies and solutions running on the Microsoft platform. APC's latest end-to-end power availability enhancement solutions will be one of the highlights in the Solutions Expo. APC's end-to-end availability solutions include UPSes, power management software, rack enclosures, UPS accessories, and services.

Handy on-the-go snack

Cinnabon's newest sweet treat is made from twisted Danish dough strips that are layered, buttery and flaky. Baked to perfection, this four-inch treat is coated with granulated cinnamon sugar, can be dipped into Cinnabon's secret recipe cream cheese frosting and goes well with Cinnabon's coffee.

CinnabonStix is a handy on-the-go snack companion. Whether it be the eight-inch Cinnabon Singles, the four-piece, four-inch pach or the 10-piece, four-inch express pack, CinnabonStix is a convenient snack companion.

Cinnabon is located at Robinson's Galleria and Robinson's Place Manila, Alabang Town Center, Shell Magallanes, Shell South Expressway, Shell North Expressway in Bulacan and in the recently opened Power Plant mall at Rockwell, Makati City.

PARTNERS IN THE GOOD NEWS

Since 1999, Logistics Management International (LMI) has been in partnership with CBN-Asia, the producers of The Club (formerly known as The 700 Club Asia) in announcing the good news of God's love and saving power. LMI electronic billboards are strategically located in various Metro Manila main thoroughfares, as well as in Cebu and Davao. The billboard on top of Mars Disco has been the venue for life-changing messages from The Club and The 700 Club Counseling Center. Shaking hands on this continuing relationship are Tito Manapat, president of LMI (center) and Grace Cepeda-Lara, director of Marketing and Public Relations for CBN-Asia. Looking on is Ramon Dizon, business development manager and senior consultant of LMI.

Clips

Foodservers seminar set

BE A GOOD food server in just five days. A Basic Foodservers Training has been set by ProActive Center for Training (PACT) on March 12-16, 2001, 1 to 5 p.m. at Triple V Express, 2/L Bridgeway, SM Megamall, Edsa, Mandaluyong City. Registration and inquiries are accepted on a first-come-first-served basis at tel. no. 823-4947; cel. 0919-5500601; or e-mail at pactserv@info.com.ph. Visit PACT's website at www.info.com.ph/~pactserv. Seminar fee covers all handouts, snacks, certificate of completion and workshop materials. The course is open to those who would like to pursue a foodservice career here and abroad or in luxury liners and to those engaged in a foodservice business such as hotels, restaurants, resorts, catering and canteens. Only 20 participants will be accommodated.

Autodesk products come with free PC

AUTODESK, the world's leading design and digital content creation resource, has launched its latest promo to help its customers go original all the way—from the design to the software. By just buying any of the following software—AutoCAD 2000i for only P200,000, AutoCAD Architectural Desktop, AutoCAD Mechanical 2000 and AutoCAD Map 2000 for only P230,000 each—each customer gets a PC Pentium III 800 15" monitor free. Promo period is from Feb. 28 to Mar. 30, 2001, or while supplies last. For inquiries, contact Gemma Deoquino at Wordtext Systems, Inc. at 812-7666 or 810-9301 or via e-mail sales@wsiphil.com.ph.

UST Hospital is 55

Santo Tomas University Hospital (STUH) celebrates its 55th anniversary with a weeklong array of activities that started March 1 and lasts until today, March 7. The 55th anniversary will be capped off today by a cultural and fellowship night featuring guest artist singer/stage actress Pinky Marquez as well as special performances by STUH's medical and house staff nursing and non-nursing personnel. For inquiries, please call the STUH marketing office at 731-3001 loc. 2563 or 749-9787.

TB confab ongoing

The joint 21st International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases Eastern Region Conference and 20th Annual Chest Convention of the Philippine College of Chest Physicians is ongoing until March 9 at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel in Mandaluyong City. Dr Camilo Roa, Jr. is the overall chair of the conference. Dr. Ma. Bella Siasoco is chair of the scientific committee. Hosting the event are the Philippine Tuberculosis Society and the PCCP in collaboration with the American College of Chest Physicians-Philippine Chapter, Department of Health, Philippine Pediatric Society, Philippine Society of Microbiological and Infectious Diseases, World Health Organization-Western Pacific Region, IUATLD and the Philippine Coalition Against Tuberculosis. For more information, call 924-9204, 927-6426 to 31 loc. 295, or e-mail pccp@i-next.net.

THE ULTIMATE AWARD

The ultimate award during the San Beda College Grand Centennial Alumni Homecoming held recently was given to Speaker Feliciano "Sonny" Belmonte, Jr. of the House of Representatives. The Benedictine monks of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, the trustees and administrators of San Beda College and the directors and members of the San Beda College Alumni Association (SBCAA) cited Speaker Belmonte for his role in heading the House of Representatives prosecution team in the impeachment trial. He was also honored for his excellence in public service and for exemplifying the values of Bedan brotherhood, courage, compassion, loyalty, integrity, fidelity and humanity in his professional and public life. The Prior-Administrator of the Abbey of Our Lady of Montserrat, Very Rev. Fr. Paul de Vera, OSB, and the alumni president and trustee, Dr. Ramon Ricardo A. Roque, presented the award to Speaker Belmonte in the culminating grand centennial event of San Beda College.

PONKANA AT BOC BASH

Sugarland Beverage Corp., the country's leading powdered drinks maker, conducted free sampling of its best-selling Ponkana instant tangerine drink during the 99th anniversary celebration of the Bureau of Customs. The sampling gave BOC personnel a refreshing break in the festivities held Feb.1 at the Nayong Pilipino. The sampling is part of SBC's continuing campaign to further heighten consumer awareness of Ponkana, which has become one of its consistently best selling brands.

Reluctant accountant achieves success in banking

By Cecile G. Garcia

CAREER Tales

CONRADO Roxas claims accounting was never his big love. Although he has now attained a certain level of success in the profession, he says accounting was merely an alternative to law. "My parents, though non-lawyers, wanted me to be one," he discloses. His father was a doctor, by the way, and his mother, a pharmacist.

Roxas was about to study political science in preparation for law when Martial Law came. "I was disheartened. An uncle of mine suggested I take up commerce, major in accounting, instead. I thought it would be a stepping stone. I could be a lawyer good in business."

But, as the cliché goes, fate had other plans. Today, Roxas serves as vice president for internal audit of Land Bank.

Banker

A native of Capiz, Roxas earned his degree in commerce from the University of San Agustin in Iloilo City. He has been with Land Bank for 22 years. His first job was as systems analyst for Far East Bank. "I am more of a banker than a CPA," says Roxas, who admits candidly that he does not engage in private accounting practice. Nonetheless, being a CPA has always come in handy. "Accounting is a tool to assist management in ensuring that the movement of finances in the company is taken cared of." Accounting, he explains, is a systematic way of recording financial transactions. "It is basically common sense," he opines, going on to say that it's not as difficult as it is perceived to be. Roxas, who confides that he's not exactly a whiz with numbers, feels conditioning or mindset may have something to do with our negative attitude towards anything involving numbers or figures.

In any event, when Roxas was in high school, he took a year's leave of absence in order to join *Masikap* (Medium and Small Scale Industries Coordination Action Program), a project of DTI engaged in countryside development. He was again with *Masikap* for another year when he decided to work for Land Bank. "I was attracted to it because its objective, countryside development, was similar to what I was doing for *Masikap*," says Roxas.

At the government institution, Roxas went up the corporate ladder without really thinking that he would be where he is now. "I started as a project analyst. Then, I was assigned in Iloilo. After awhile, I was recalled to Manila to work with the bank's agrarian sector," he recounts. Eventually, Roxas became head of the Domestic Banking Operations Group. Three years ago, he was promoted to VP for internal audit.

Non-traditional

Roxas considers himself a non-traditional auditor. According to him, a traditional or typical auditor is concerned mainly with protecting the corporate account, seeing to it that practices and procedures are complied with, keeping management informed on the performance of those being audited and making sure that systems and procedures are effective.

But, as far as Roxas is concerned, the duties and obligations of an auditor in an environment like Land Bank are not quite that simple or limited. To begin with, he feels that in the workplace, especially on the part of an executive like himself, human relationships rather than skills should be given more importance. "This is why I talk to my staff. I put a premium on listening. I validate them whenever I listen and encourage them by responding positively to whatever they would like me to hear," Roxas points out.

As much as possible, Roxas tries to make collegial decisions after seeking out the opinions and suggestions of his supervisors, who in turn consult with people under them. Contending that seniority should not always be a major factor (contrary to the view of Civil Service), he believes what audit requires is initiative and creativity. "You can't be effective if you're boxed-in," he reasons. Likewise, he advocates transparency. "We should call attention to mistakes, not try to cover them up."

Love for job

Another thing Roxas stresses is love of one's job and dedication to it. "You have to like what you're doing," he says, commenting that one can't be effective if he feels his job is tiresome, a chore. It is equally important to integrate spirituality, which Roxas believes should be an essential ingredient of our daily endeavors.

As head of internal audit, Roxas has instigated a number of changes in the department, which offhand would seem to have little to do with audit. One of these is bringing in training programs from time to time. He once invited the dean of UST's College of Psychology to conduct a three-day seminar for his staff.

Roxas developed an interest in psychology when he turned 40. "In fact, if I could do it all over again, I would study psychology," he confirms, at the same time, lamenting that psychologists are often relegated to the side. "People are interesting and I believe human behavior is the key to a lot of things. In audit, I think it could have an effect on loss of asset."

PHOTO BY ROGER MARGALLO

ROXAS stresses love of one's job and dedication to it.

Sometimes, Roxas feels he might be in the wrong profession. Yet he's undoubtedly happy with it. He asides, "I think Filipinos in general make good accountants. It is a fact that some people are excited by numbers. On the job, you feel more comfortable when you know you can interpret financial statements." Roxas, incidentally, is incoming president of PICPA (Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants), Laguna Chapter, which has 200 members.

Challenges

As head of internal audit, Roxas' great challenge is how to change the attitude or mindset of the people he works with, especially his staff. "I feel certain attitudes have been inculcated and perpetuated by our educational system, by our culture. Maybe even parents are guilty. I realize it's hard but I would like to do my share by trying to influence at least those I work with," says Roxas, who is clearly an idealist. "I'm a perennial optimist," he counters. "I look at the positive side. I believe people are basically good. Often, it's the system that corrupts them."

Roxas, by the way, has been married for 20 years. He and his wife Ma. Teresa, have three daughters, ages 11, 17 and 18. The eldest goes to UP Los Baños, where she's taking up Chemistry, while the two younger ones attend Colegio de San Agustin, Southwoods. A family man, Roxas spends weekends at home with his wife and children. "Or we drive to Alabang to buy groceries, eat lunch and dinner. I know I need to spend more time with them," says he. But he keeps stringent working hours, sometimes staying in the office as late as 9 or 10 in the evening.

Dreams

Upon retirement, Roxas would like to go back to his beginnings, his roots that are in the countryside. "But Capiz is too far. I would like to have a place that is within driving distance, a place my family and I can visit as often as we like," says he. He pictures a piece of land he can cultivate by planting fruit-bearing trees, preferably a farm with a hilly terrain overlooking the sea. He sees himself surrounded by his wife, children and grandchildren in the peace and quiet of this little farm.

Being a weekend farmer has always been a constant dream, says Roxas, one his colleagues in Land Bank share with him. They, too, would like to be farmers one day, albeit during weekends, and thus go back to the countryside.

Another dream Roxas cherishes that is also a deep concern is to see his staff, 60 of them, "beam and glitter with light, performance-wise, but more importantly, for them to be aware of each other as human beings, who care for one another." The bottom line, Roxas summarizes, is human relationships and how we handle them.

Insights of people at work

By Tita Datu Puangco

Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

DEAR Readers,

We received three very interesting feedback letters on our earlier articles. In "Living the spirit of People Power 2," we advocated things that an ordinary employee can do in his day-to-day life to live the spirit of people power.

In "Managing multiple tasks," we recommended a flexible mindset open to change and techniques on how to streamline and distribute work in a downsized setting.

In another article on the "Harassed housewife" who had to juggle three hours of commute to and from Cavite, a full-time job in Makati, household work and tutoring the kids, we suggested ways to delegate housework, and take care of one's health to combat pollution, among others.

This week, let us learn from these three insightful letters. Thanks to the three of them who build and reinforce as well as add to our pool of ideas.

From Gemma Cruz Araneta:

I read with great interest your answer to "People Power inspired." Indeed, the problem is how to continue this and how to live for the Filipino. The Filipino is worth dying for but let us also live for the Filipino.

When I was in second year high school, one of our teachers, a Maryknoll nun (Sister Maria del Carmen or Virginia Fabella) taught us about the spirit of detachment. I have never forgotten this lesson and I hope I have been able to transmit this to my children. It is similar to the simplicity you wrote about. When you are surrounded with luxury and abundance, detachment is a great discipline to have and practice.

I am a firm believer of "working with excellence" even if no one notices your work. You owe it to yourself to strive for excellence. It is also a way of thanking God for all the talents He has given us.

Civic consciousness should indeed be part of our daily lives. Many think these are grandiose acts for the public to notice. As you mentioned, these are insignificant acts like picking up cups that litter the drinking station, not losing time to gossip and I may add, crossing the streets at the corner, even if it means walking a few more meters. There are so many things one can do every single minute of the day. I always tell myself I don't want to be the weakest link in the national chain.

I wish the best.

From Seconds G. Basa:

It is a pleasant surprise to see your article in the INQUIRER. After retiring from the bank where we used to work, I joined another smaller bank. I believe in the saying that one should not retire from life but instead continue to work and contribute.

I read your article "Managing multiple tasks." I think it was excellent material. May I add that to be able to manage multiple tasks, one must be able to master himself. One must have self-discipline and persistence in the pursuit of daily tasks, knowing how to prioritize the important from the urgent and the trivial to maximize results. As a manager all my career life, I realize that I also have to master the art of delegating. A good manager multiplies what he can do through people.

Finally, managing the workplace requires the main ingredient—to love your work. Passion, spending the day with fire in your belly, helps make great things happen today.

From Ben Corotan:

I cannot resist but share with you my experience identical to the "harassed housewife" who lives in the suburbs. Based on my studies and readings, I discovered that for working heads of families, the best place to reside is near the place of work in Metro Manila or in "the center where the action is."

The house rent is offset by the following factors: savings in gasoline, plus car depreciation, driving costs or even Fx fare, additional rest, recreation and sleep, more time spent with family, more time for yourself and your hobbies, more opportunities for a second job or sideline, more time for quality recreation for the kids (malls, cultural centers, theaters, museums) reduced or free tuition, which is subsidized in Makati and Manila.

The pollution one gets commuting could be much more than residing in Metro Manila provided one does not live on major thoroughfares. The lack of oxygen while travelling in an enclosed air-conditioned vehicle must be very damaging to the brain and body.

Professional workers with ambition can go for more career development for they could take up MBA or personal improvement courses in the evening. One can even watch out for other career opportunities such as job vacancies. A family living below the poverty line would be able to survive and improve his lot better rather than live in far-flung resettlement areas.

For working couples or small families, the ideal set-up is to rent a studio for P7,000 a month during weekdays and hie away to a Cavite bungalow on weekends. For families who can afford a driver, they can live in the suburbs.

I hope you keep on writing those useful articles.

Dear People at Work...

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

'I already have a job, do I need to update my resume?'

WORKING WOUNDED

By Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: My wife and I are having an argument. She says I need to write a resume and keep it updated "just in case." I say, my job's secure, I don't need to. The last time I wrote a resume was 10 years ago and I can still feel the pain. Please tell me I'm right.

No resume, I presume

Dear Presume,

My advice: be prepared. And it's not the Boy Scout manual I'm quoting, it's Donald Trump's ex-wife, Marla Maples. According to a recent article in the New Yorker, before they got married, Marla brought a wedding dress along on every trip she and "the Donald" took. Her rationale: "Might as well. You've got to be prepared."

Well, the same goes for resumes. You never know when your corporate Prince (or Princess) Charming may pop the question and, like Marla, you want to be ready. You want to keep your resume constantly updated on a computer disk so that whenever opportunity knocks, you can quickly tailor it to the prospect and respond.

Of course, just having the resume on a floppy is only half the answer (kind of like having the wedding dress but no place to wear it). You also need to make sure the resume gets seen. To do that, I suggest you cruise the resume aisle at your local bookstore. There are tons of books with good advice. I'll just ask you some questions to get you started.

1. Can you speak your suitor's language? Many companies screen resumes by using computers that look for key words. If you're missing the words, you don't get read. Simple as that. So make sure your resume contains the language the company uses in its ad or job description, and make sure you spell out the ways you meet their requirements.

2. What have you earned or saved, for past employers? No matter what his or her line of business, money is the bottom line, and no matter what your job title's been, you should've been in a position to either earn or save it. Maybe you scored a couple of really big contracts. Maybe you cut the light bill by working in the dark. Mine your past and list all the ways you made or saved money for past employers. Your suitors will be suitably impressed.

3. How do the successful people look on paper? I always ask people I respect for a copy of their resume. Sure, they look at me funny at first but then they think it's a compliment. And I always pick up a trick or two that helps with my own resume.

Follow these tips and you'll have a "trump" card in dealing with the next job opportunity that comes your way. And if you think this sounds painful, remember: it's easier to carry a floppy with your resume than to lug around a wedding dress wherever you go.

Here are the results of the recent workingwounded.com poll: How truthful am I on my resume?

—It's pure pulp fiction, 5 percent

—I don't exactly lie, but . . . 42 percent

—It's the truth, the whole truth and nothing but . . . 53 percent

Our winning resume strategy comes from Scott in Port Orchard, WA., "I use the phone book and mail my resume to every company I think might be interested in me. Recently I wrote to 40 companies and got six offers—even though none of the jobs were listed in the want ads."

(Email feedback to bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

Don't let Lady Luck lock you in

RECIPES for LEARNING

By Moje Ramos-Aquino

IF you are still working on your Big Life Goals (BLG), Objectives (OBJ) and Action Plans (AP), let me share with you this advice from Naomi Wolf, "Push yourself a little further than you dare." And from Cokie Roberts, "Life is long. You'll have lots of opportunity, lots of different things to do and you don't have to do them all at once. You can, you just don't sleep very much."

If you are now looking at the immensity of your future, i.e. your life plans, and feeling afraid and inadequate, take inspiration and comfort from these pep talks of famous First Ladies. From Barbara Bush: "At the end of your life, you will never regret not having passed one more test, not winning one more verdict, or not closing one more deal. You will regret time not spent with a husband, a child, a friend or a parent." Rosalynn Carter: "If we have not achieved our early dreams, we must either find new ones or see what we can salvage from the old." Abigail Adams: "True greatness has its seat in the heart. It must be elevated by aspiring to great things and by daring to think yourself capable of them." Lady Bird Johnson: "Become so wrapped up in something that you forget to be afraid." Jackie Kennedy Onassis: "An aim in life is the only fortune worth finding."

Disappointments

I know that you are disappointed that certain things are not going the way you want them to go. I know that you are disheartened that some people seem to be blocking your way or even deliberately giving you wrong directions. I know that you are desperate for that one big break you have been waiting for all these years or that your boss is playing favorites and giving all the breaks to other people. I know that you sometimes consider yourself "unlucky" or that the grass is always greener on the other side of the fence. Or you might be feeling dejected that your spouse and children are having it easy while you try to juggle your time and divide your energy between the demands of your career and your family. Or you might feel frustrated with your marketing and advertising department that they are not selling your product enough and commensurate to its worth.

Then, you have what experts call External Locus of Control (E-Loc), meaning, you believe that, apart from your genes, people, luck, society, events, and/or other forces outside your personal control, determine your life and the outcomes of your action. It supposes that you are what you are because of factors external to you. For example, your promotion is courtesy of your boss. You blame your plateaued career to those *sipsips* in the office. Your flawless skin is a result of the new whitening cum moisturizing cream you just bought. Your fortune plant or a favorite shirt always brings you good luck.

Locus of control

Locus of Control refers to how you perceive the cause of your life events. On the other hand, you have Internal Locus of Control (I-Loc) when you generally perceive yourself as responsible for certain occurrences in your life—meaning, your action and speech have a direct bearing on whatever happens to you. Of course, with a lot of guidance and with permission from God, the only external factor that you should allow to intervene in your life.

You might now be feasting on your favorite rocky road ice cream or to-die-for tiramisu or crispy *lechon* or refreshing soft drink or even gin *bulag* because you have just received a pay increase because of your excellent job performance in the past year despite the adverse business environment. You sleep seven to eight hours a day, drink 8-12 glasses of liquid everyday and diligently adhere to a personal hygiene program to ensure yourself of a glowing and flawless complexion and aura. You buy yourself a new skirt or pair of pants because you have lost 10 pounds, slowly but surely in three months' time and have stayed with that weight in the past six months. You congratulate the new manager and, in the same breath, design your own learning and working strategy to do better in your job in order to get the next promotion in line. You have just demonstrated your being I-Loc.

Full control

While being I-Loc is desirable, it is not at all ideal and practical to be I-Loc all the time. While you always endeavor to do things and use your God-given talents and capabilities, it is equally exhilarating and fulfilling to be working in synergy with other people. It is energy conserving to ride on the current of certain events. Luck, however, is definitely an all out E-Loc defense mechanism.

What is important is to be aware that you have, by a large scale, full control of your life. You have full control over who and what you will allow inside your life and in which life event you will participate. You can choose to work for that promotion and give your boss a sound reason to select you or you can simply leave your chances to the whims of the boss.

If you want to know what is your locus of control, you may take this e-test for locus of control at any of these sites. They also have lengthy discussions on the topic. The sites are: *www.queendom.com/tests/lc.html, www.dushkin.com/connectext/psy/ch11/survey11.mhtml* and *www.hkstar.com/~ttyu/psytests/loc.htm.*

Your locus of control greatly influences your motivation, expectations, self-esteem, risk-taking behavior and even the actual outcome of your action. Your Locus of Control will help or restrain you from mapping out and accomplishing your life plan. Your ability to determine your life builds your self-worth, makes you understand your capabilities, accept your limitations and give yourself the credit you deserve. This is your God-given personal power. You can because you are, in God's time.

"You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face," thus spoke Eleanor Roosevelt. Martha Washington seconds, "The greater part of happiness or misery depends on our dispositions and not our circumstances.

Women's month

Women rule. Happy Women's Day, Women's Week, Women's Month! It is March and let us all, women and men, celebrate this remarkable being called woman.

I know that there are many women out there who are happy and fulfilled. Equally, there are many out there who are sad and feeling useless. What is your current disposition? Why do you feel and think that way? Are you being exclusively E-Loc or I-Loc or do you easily change your orientation depending on what is best for you? Oprah Winfrey talks sense indeed, "Instead of looking for success in your life, look for the thing that is going to bring you the greatest joy." And you alone know what makes you happy.

Here's a man for the women's hearth. Plan a visit to the exhibit of Habitiles (Booth #532) at the Worldbex Exhibition on March 14-18 at the World Trade Center, Roxas Boulevard, Manila. My friend, chemical engineer Edwin Espiritu, makes use of his experience in concrete additives and, in the present comatose state of the construction industry, calls on his "what they don't teach you in the MBA school" competencies to design and manufacture these *malaga* tiles.

Edwin is an environmentally conscious fellow and he will expound in his exhibit how it is politically correct to use a low energy consuming material like cement tiles instead of fired flooring products. He uses locally sourced materials for his tiles. He has developed a wall and paving tile which makes use of waste fast food containers like styropor (which compounds our garbage problem due to its almost non-biodegradability). This is now being patented. I suggested to him that the tiles be called "McJolli." He assures me that this type of tiles will be *anay* proof as well as rat proof.

(Email feedback to moje.ramos@aquino.ZZN.com.*)*

e-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph
PEOPLE at WORK
RAUL O. MARCELO, Editor ■ REGINA GALANG REYES, Subsection Editor

New grads don't need experience to get hired

BY ERNIE O. CECILIA

> Look for companies that can provide you value. Don't join a company that you will regret having worked for.

EVERY year, more than 350,000 students graduate from college. Approximately 350,000 more youngsters, who have not been blessed with a college diploma, join the labor force annually.

Today, it is believed that there are more than four million Filipinos who are unemployed, 10 million more who are underemployed, and a few million employees seeking higher paying jobs. For the average new graduate, these figures could only mean that job hunting has truly become a very competitive undertaking.

How can a fresh graduate compete in the job market? Will his lack of experience be a hindrance to a good job and career? What must he do to get preferential treatment over hundreds, sometimes thousands, of other job applicants for a single position?

Having been a human resource director for 25 years, I have made the rounds of more than 10 schools this year to give career talks to graduating students. It is not uncommon to find that many graduating students are not prepared for the rigors of job hunting. As a gesture of service, I usually share with the students the secrets of personnel managers when they are looking for job applicants.

I have also discussed in detail the secrets of a successful career, in my twin career guides—Tips 1 (How to Get a Job) and Tips 2 (How to Keep Your Job). Both books are available at National Bookstore and Bookmark outlets at prices cheaper than most career books by foreign authors, who are not familiar with the Filipino context.

Here are a few important tips from my books for fresh graduates who want to have an edge in the competitive job market.

1. Know what you want to be.

If after college graduation you still don't know what you want to be, it is difficult to set your sight on a good career. Have a clear career goal and pursue it. As a student, it is best to consult your guidance counselor on careers you can pursue after graduation. Ask your parents, friends and relatives, and be socially aware. Have a role model or somebody whose footsteps you want to follow.

When looking out for a job or career, do not look at the job ad first. Look inside you and discover your burning passion, your dreams, your aspirations, or where you want to be recognized and known for at some distant future. Think today what you wish to be known for 20 years hence.

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

The first secret of having a dream come true is first to have a dream. If you do not know where you are going, no road will take you there.

2. Know what jobs you can do and want to do.

Look into yourself and find out what jobs you can do and want to do. In school, at work, or at play, where do you excel? What do you enjoy doing most? What technical skills do you have? What soft skills do you possess? Do you want to work alone or do you enjoy working with others? Are you creative? Can you express yourself well, in writing or orally? Do you have special talents? What equipment, instruments, etc. can you operate? What are your aptitudes? What is your attitude towards people, products, services, etc?

Try answering these questions and you will find out what jobs you can and want to do, even if you still don't have working experience. By looking into yourself, you will realize that many times Zig Ziglar is correct—it is your attitude, not your aptitude, that determines your altitude.

3. Know where to get that dream career.

When you shall have fixed in your mind the kind of career you want to pursue, the logical next step is to know where to get that dream career. Should you join a manufacturing, marketing or service company? Should you join the government, a non-government organization, a non-profit organization, or engage in the private practice of your profession, or set-up your own business?

What jobs make up your career ladder? What kind of education, training and work experience must you have for you to get to the top of your chosen ladder? What socio-civic organizations must you affiliate with in order to enhance your chances of success in your career?

Answers to these question will narrow down your choices and allow fresh graduates to focus their job-hunting efforts.

4. Know how to select great companies.

In pursuing a great career, it is a common mistake among new graduates to take the first bus that comes along. I know many employees who regret that they took the first job that came their way, thinking that once inside the company, they would have better perspective and greater freedom to choose what jobs they want to do.

Knowing what jobs you can do (see tip. No. 2) will give you greater confidence in looking for the companies that will help sustain your career. Set your sights on great companies to work with, not just to work for. Usually, great companies have VALUE or:

- Vision for the future they want
- Ability to sustain the best compensation
- Long-term orientation (they are here to stay)
- Understanding of people as key to their business
- Excellence

Look for companies that can provide you VALUE (see acronym above) in exchange for the value you give by way of your contributions to their goals. Don't join a company that you will regret having worked for.

5. Know how to sell yourself through a resume.

Companies are choosy in the people they hire and don't have time to talk to all job applicants. To get a foot in the door, a new graduate must submit a good resume that will interest the recruitment officer. The only resume that will be worth reading is one that helps match your qualifications with the job specifications. You must make a power resume that can sell yourself.

Fresh graduates should highlight their competencies, as they don't have real work experiences to talk about. Rather than highlight your personal circumstances (information least needed), show your competencies or what you can do. Look back and write down skills you learned in school and during your practicum. List down projects and your actual participation or contribution.

6. Know how to create a lasting first impression.

Once your resume interests the recruitment officer, he will call you for a preliminary interview (PI). There could be hundreds of you who will undergo the PI for one position. The secret is to create a lasting first impression.

Fresh graduates must know the two knock-down dimensions at this stage of contact with the company. They are "impact" and "communication." Don't be sloppy but don't be overbearing. Show a no-nonsense attitude about your choice of career, job and company. Show a lot of confidence, dress properly for the occasion and communicate clearly and concisely your ideas. What you say reflects what you think.

Do not fail this stage or you will have to say goodbye to your desire to work with this company.

(To be continued next week)

Fast-forward your savings at Plantersbank and watch it really grow!

Introducing

P60,000 Becomes P100,000 in 5 Years

60 ▸▸▸▸ 100
P60,000 BECOMES P100,000 IN 5 YEARS

Imagine the endless possibilities. Save for the college education of your children, take a grand vacation, buy your dream house, or just keep on fast-forwarding your savings for whatever you might want to spend it on later. The choice is yours.

Simply open an individual or joint account of P60,000 at any Plantersbank branch and in only 5 years, your money becomes P100,000 tax-free.

- Minimum deposit requirement is P60,000
- Documentary stamps and withholding tax waived if held to maturity
- Certificate of Time Deposit (CTD) will be issued

For inquiries, call our product hotline at tel. no. (02) 759-2703,
e-mail at corpcomm@plantersbank.com.ph
or visit any Plantersbank branch near you.

PLANTERSBANK
The Bank for Small and Medium Enterprises

Member of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation.
Deposits insured up to P100,000.00

A proud member of BancNet

YES, I want my savings to really grow.
Name: ____
Address: ____
Phone No.: ____
Fax No.: ____
Occupation: ____
Cut and Fax this form to (02) 759-2700.

PDI 03/2001

to be young • to be you • to be young • to be you! •

2bU

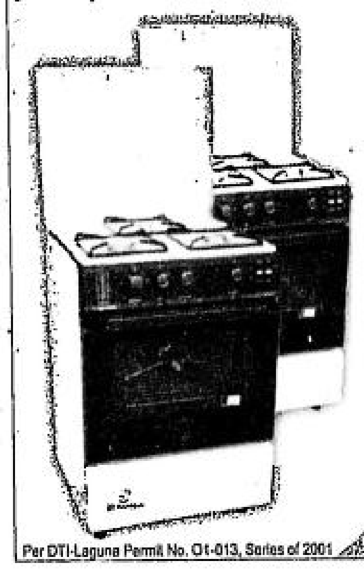
LIFESTYLE

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Ed

For feedback or suggestions ls_2bu@inquirer.com.ph

Beauty starts with a hot shower bath.
P705.17 x 12
New Ariva Cristina
Fully Automatic Water Heater with Built-In ELCB
FREE Installation!
PLDT
724-59-07
BAYANTEL
415-93-78
ARIVA
WATER HEATERS

WHAT'S ON
AT ROBINSONS



WOW Tecnogas
Shop now at Robinsons Town Mall Los Banos and get a chance to win a 3-Burner Gas Range in the weekly raffle draw.
Promo Period:
January 22 - March 11, 2001
KCFM Live it UP!
Keep tuned to 93.9 KCFM for daily announcement of winners
See leaflets for details.
ROBINSONS Town Mall LOS BAÑOS
visit us at www.robinsonsland.com
Per DTI-Laguna Permit No. 01-013, Series of 2001

No games. Just sports

This week 2bU! wrestles with the (still) male-dominated world of sports

Launching on
Sunday, 11 March 2001
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

SOTOGRANDE
TAGAYTAY

All Things Grand and Beautiful

Sotogrande is a 21 has., mid-end residential community blessed with a great cool weather and clean air, located in Tagaytay. It lies approximately an hour and a half drive away from Makati.

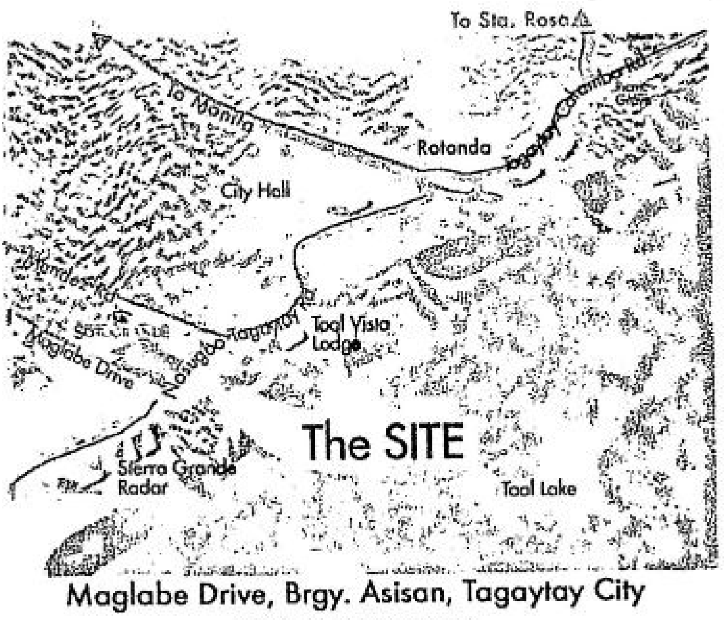
The site's gently rolling topography and the existing mature trees helped in structuring the roads and residential villages defined by its 240 to 350 sq.m. lots.

The entry statement includes a simple yet elegant signage wall that marches down the gently sloping entry drive and accentuated with flower pots at regular intervals. Formal rows of Palm Trees with background of informal trees complete the palette for the entry drive. The guardhouse and pedestrian portals carry through the Spanish Mediterranean theme.

Sotogrande Features & Amenities

- Landscaped entrance gate & guardhouse
- Complete water and electrical facilities
- Parks and playgrounds
- Concrete curbs, roads & gutters
- Shade trees along the roads
- Underground storm drainage system
- Electrical facilities
- Mercury lamps along the roads
- Clubhouse
- Covered basketball court
- Swimming pool w/ swimming pool deck
- Tennis courts
- Perfumed garden

Sotogrande is a prime location. A majestic view of Taal Volcano and its Lake beckons from the South. Overlooking view of Manila Bay is in the North while Laguna de Bay lies in the East. Expanse of beautiful nature surrounds the entire place. The centers of human activities such as church, schools, markets, hospitals and recreational sites, among others, are also located within Sotogrande's immediate vicinity.



Maglabe Drive, Brgy. Asisan, Tagaytay City
VICINITY MAP

An exclusive development of:
STA. LUCIA Realty & Development, Inc.

Exclusive Mktg. Network:
ORCHARD PROPERTY MARKETING CORPORATION
A SUBSIDIARY OF STA. LUCIA REALTY & DEVELOPMENT, INC.

OPMC SALES OFFICE: Unit 707, West Tower, Philippine Stock Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Tel. No.: (632) 637-8632 / 636-5884 to 85. Fax No.: (632) 635-4151.
Visit our Website at www.orchardproperty.com.ph or e-mail us at ompc@orchardproperty.com.ph

Movies that make you feel like a winner

By Pam Pastor

"Three Cheers!"
Bring It On

THIS is getting to be a habit. Once again, I scrounged for movies in our village's video rental stores. But this time, I had a reason to be thankful. Unlike before when I had to resort to raiding my cousin's VCD collection, I had more than enough titles to choose from. It seems like Hollywood has never gotten tired of capitalizing on something that has kept audiences from all corners of the globe captivated—the world of sports.

And why should it? These movies have given us something ESPN hasn't provided—a chance to peek into the more human and more emotional side of sports. No wonder even non-aficionados have been hooked.

Hollywood has known no limits. Baseball? Basketball? Football? They have gone farther than that. Some films have delved into the ins and outs of unknown sports. And the movies do not only dwell on the athletes. They also provide a deeper look at people who usually stay in the sidelines—the cheerleaders, coaches, and even the fans.

'Bring It On'

If you think cheerleading is all about pom-poms and fluff and that cheerleaders are nothing but airheads in short, short skirts, watch this movie. You might just change your mind. New captain Torrance Shipman (played by Kirsten Dunst) has a big problem in her hands. She has just found out that all the routines that won them the nationals several years in a row have been stolen by their old leader from another school. Determined to prove to themselves and their rival squad that they can win without cheating, they spend the next few weeks working nonstop, learning new routines. It is Torrance's job to lead them to a more difficult victory.

Though simple, the plot has worked a lot of values into the story—friendship, determination, hard work and, of course, love.

Eliza Dushku is fantastic in this movie as Missy, the newest member of the squad. I love her. And her brother, Cliff (played by Jesse Bradford) is gorgeous, lopsided smile and all. (Excuse me while I drool again.)

"Bring It On" puts together fun, high energy and excitement—this movie would be great to watch with your friends.

One last note. I overheard a man asking about this movie at the rental store. He said, with a sick smile on his face, "R-18 *ba yan*?" The clerk replied, "*Hindi po*, sir. *Wala ngang makikita diyan eh*," a trace of disappointment evident in his voice. If you have sick fantasies about cheerleaders like these two, please, leave the video on the shelf. It will do nothing for your perversion.

Paramount Pictures
SPECIAL EDITION
JAMES VAN DER BEEK JON VOIGHT
VARSITY BLUES
Make your own rules.
"Great fun! Voight is terrific."

'Celtic Pride'

How far will fans go for victory? "Celtic Pride" attempts to answer this question. Daniel Stern and Dan Aykroyd play two Boston Celtics fanatics who are so desperate for victory that they commit the "most desperate act of team loyalty in the history of organized sports"—they kidnapped Utah Jazz star player Louis Scott (played by Damon Wayans) the night before the championship. As expected, the klutzy kidnappers stumble over one mishap after another, with a constantly cocky Wayans mocking their every move. This movie is funny. Watch out for the finals game, which is made even more exciting because the freedom of the two fans is also at stake.

'The Waterboy'

Bobby Boucher (played by Adam Sandler) is a farm-bred mama's boy who is perfectly content with his present job as the waterboy for a sports team, despite the fact that all the athletes enjoy bullying and pushing him around. When Bobby becomes the "water distribution engineer" for a football team, the coach realizes that there's more to Bobby than H20. He convinces the kid to defy his mother's wishes and start playing football. Like any other movie, this Adam Sandler starrer will bring you a lot of laughs. But that is not all—this is a closer look at mother-son relationships and breaking the barriers of stereotypes. Also in the cast are Kathy Bates as the mom and Fairuza Balk as Bobby's love interest.

'The Cutting Edge'

They are each other's last recourse. He is her chance at an Olympic medal, she is his chance for a career on ice. "The Cutting Edge" is almost a classic, starring D.B. Sweeney as the injured ex-hockey player Doug Dorsey, and Moira Kelly as the prima-donna figure skater Kate Mosley.

In the beginning, the protagonists spend most of their time onscreen snapping at each other. But soon, your eyes will be riveted to the screen as you wait for romance to develop between the two.

More than just a love story, "The Cutting Edge" will help you take figure skating more seriously—you will no longer dismiss it as just something you see in the Icecapades.

'Baseketball'

Another stupid slapstick movie, I thought to myself as I grabbed this video off the rack. I was wrong. I already knew this movie was going to be a barrel of laughs (no big surprise since the guy who brought "Naked Gun" to the big screen directed it), but it offered much more than that. "Baseketball" is a spoof of professional sports–a satire on how commercialism is taking over the athletic world.

"South Park" creators (yes, yes, repeat after me: "Oh my god, they killed Kenny!") Trey Parker and Matt Stone star in this movie as two bums who invent a game that combines the rules of baseball and basketball. The game becomes a hit in driveways and is soon discovered by a billionaire who decides to turn it into a professional league. The game becomes a national obsession and catapults Coop and Remer into the centerstage. The two soon realize that being famous isn't all that it is touted to be—especially when they are blackmailed and threatened by biggies who wish to turn the game into a big marketing ploy.

'Varsity Blues'

Dawson has finally moved out of his shell. James Van Der Beek (of "Dawson's Creek" TV fame) takes his career a step forward in this movie as Jonathan Moxon, the backup quarterback who is suddenly given a shot to be the town hero.

Mox, who lives in a football-crazed community, is content with staying in the sidelines and being a nice guy. But when the team's star player is injured, he has big shoes to fill. He has no choice but to take over, much to the chagrin of his girlfriend. With all the pressure and obstacles he faces, Mox learns what it takes to be a hero.

This movie is okay, although it could have used a little more flavor. Jon Voight is effective as the tyrant coach Bud Kilmer. I wanted to wring his neck.

'Mystery, Alaska'

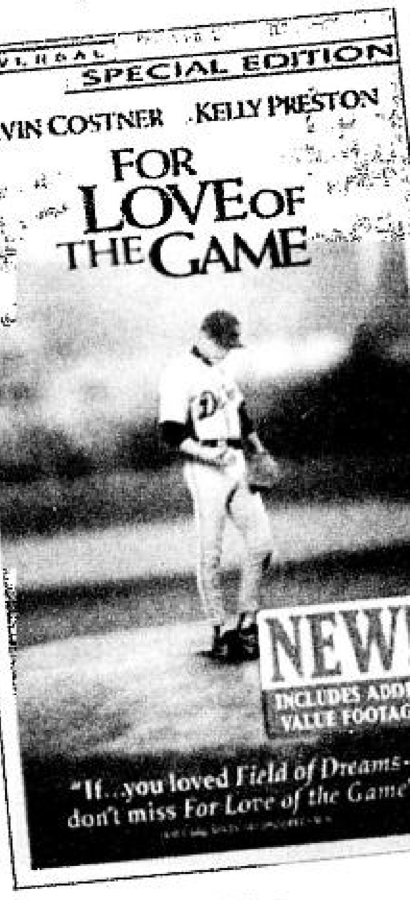
I have to admit I expected a lot from this movie. There are big names in the cast (Russell Crow and Burt Reynolds), and it has a big producer (David E. Kelley, the guy who led Ally McBeal" into our lives), but I was disappointed in the beginning. It lacks the tension and excitement of your usual sports movie.

Mystery is a small hockey-loving town in Alaska that is brought to the attention of the world when its team accepts a challenge from the New York Rangers. The film not only talks about sports, but also tackles family, marital relations, youth and ambition. Although I was tempted not to finish it, I was glad I decided to stick around. The ending is remarkable. The film brings to us one very important lesson: You don't have to win to be a winner.

'For Love of the Game'

Among the lot, this movie is my top pick. Unlike all the other sports movies that end with one big game, the whole movie is just one game—the game of a lifetime.

Legendary Detroit Tigers pitcher Billy Chapel (Kevin Costner) has always been better at sports than at love. After a bad season, the Tigers owner gives him bad news—he might be selling the team, and Chapel might be traded. Chapel decides to start considering retirement—after 21 years of playing baseball. As if this isn't enough, just before what can possibly be Billy's last game, his on-again, off-again girlfriend Kelly Preston tells him that she's leaving him. He tries to battle with his emotions and his physical limits as he plays the ultimate ballgame of his life, coming closer and closer to making one big decision that may change his existence forever.

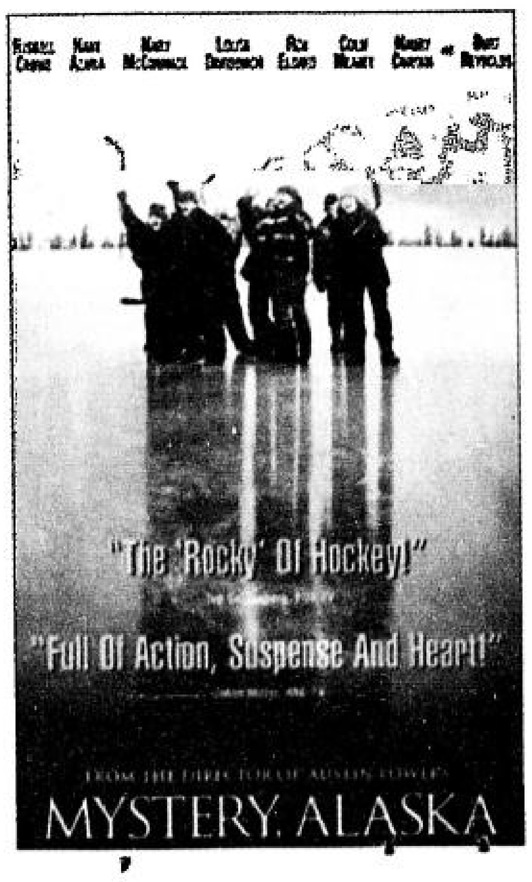

UNIVERSAL
SPECIAL EDITION
KEVIN COSTNER KELLY PRESTON
FOR LOVE OF THE GAME
NEW! INCLUDES ADDED VALUE FOOTAGE
"If...you loved Field of Dreams-don't miss For Love of the Game!"

You know how people say that just before you die your whole life will flash before your eyes? This is what happens to Billy as he stands on the pitcher's mound. The touching story of life and love unravels with his every pitch. The sucker for romance that I am, I will never forget what Kelly Preston says about the baseball that he gave her when she first watched him play, "I like to hold it in my hand 'cause I know somewhere you're doing the same thing."

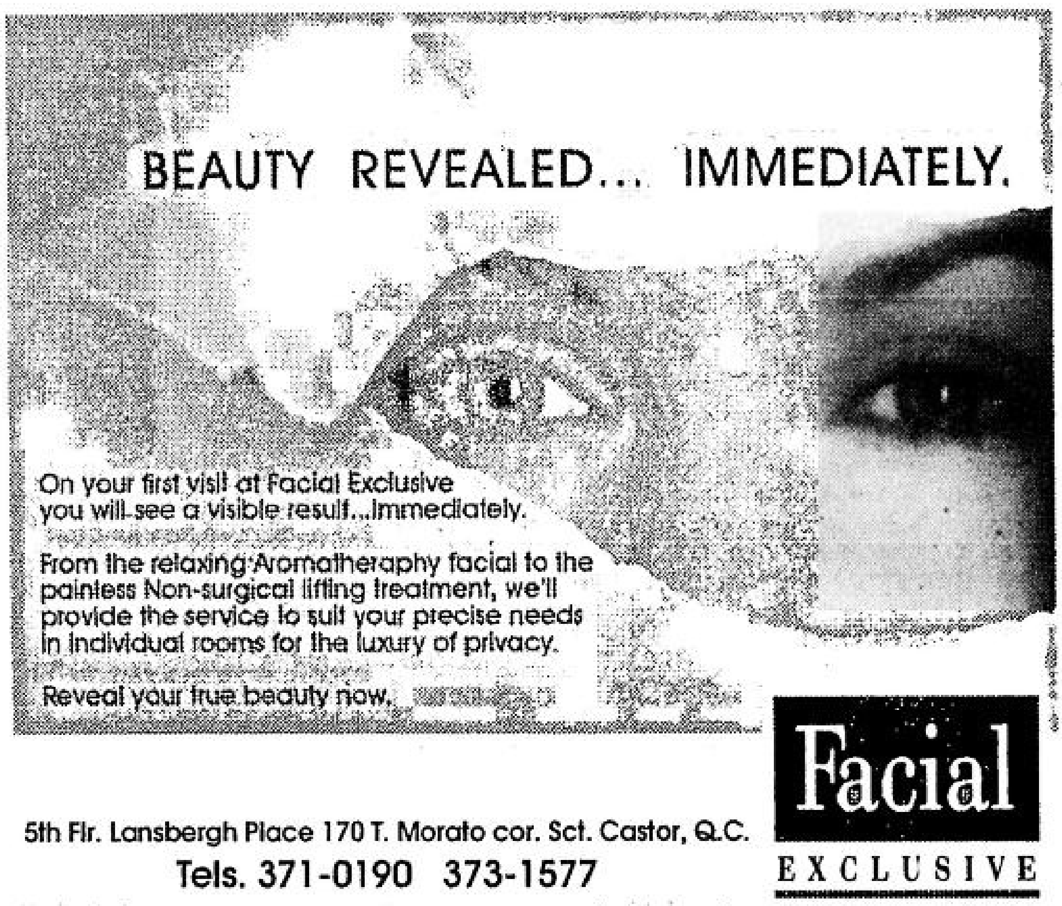
I kept my hanky handy just in case, since I expected to be in tears by the end of the movie. I wasn't disappointed. I was a blubbering mess when the credits rolled.

Cuddle with your loved ones while you watch this movie. Don't forget your box of tissues.

E-mail the author at p-a-m-m-y@gurlmail.com



The sporting life has always been fodder for the Hollywood grist. Here's a list of movies that made you whip it up like a cheerleader


BEAUTY REVEALED... IMMEDIATELY.

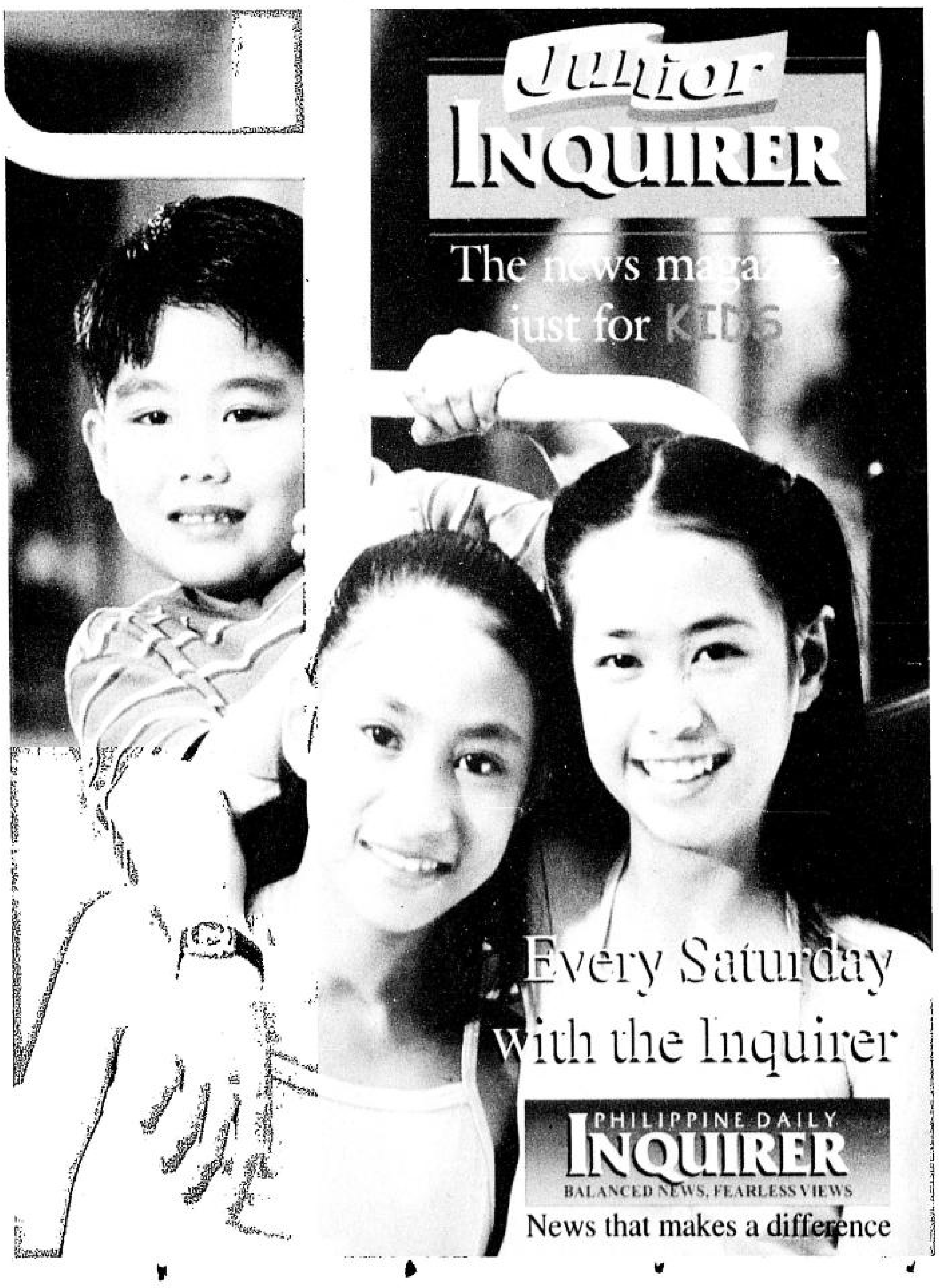
On your first visit at Facial Exclusive you will see a visible result...Immediately.

From the relaxing Aromatheraphy facial to the painless Non-surgical lifting treatment, we'll provide the service to suit your precise needs in individual rooms for the luxury of privacy.

Reveal your true beauty now.

Facial EXCLUSIVE

5th Flr. Lansbergh Place 170 T. Morato cor. Sct. Castor, Q.C.
Tels. 371-0190 373-1577


Junior INQUIRER
The news magazine just for KIDS
Every Saturday with the Inquirer
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
News that makes a difference

My best friends are always one text away.
Now I've got a new friend who's always at my side.

WHO'S who? Let's get Anonymous.

Hardcourt heartthrobs

PHOTOS BY MIKE ALQUINTO

If you think basketball is their only major, you're wrong— you can add modeling

IT was, to say the very least, a daunting task. From contacting the players (thank God for text!) to asking permission from coaches and managers (thank God for the fax machine) to scrounging for the biggest sized clothes (thank God for Joel and Richard of Anonymous who were patient, really patient), to finding a suitable place where the players will be comfortable enough to pose (thank God for Mr. Elmer Yañga who lent us RFM Gym), it was no easy pitch.

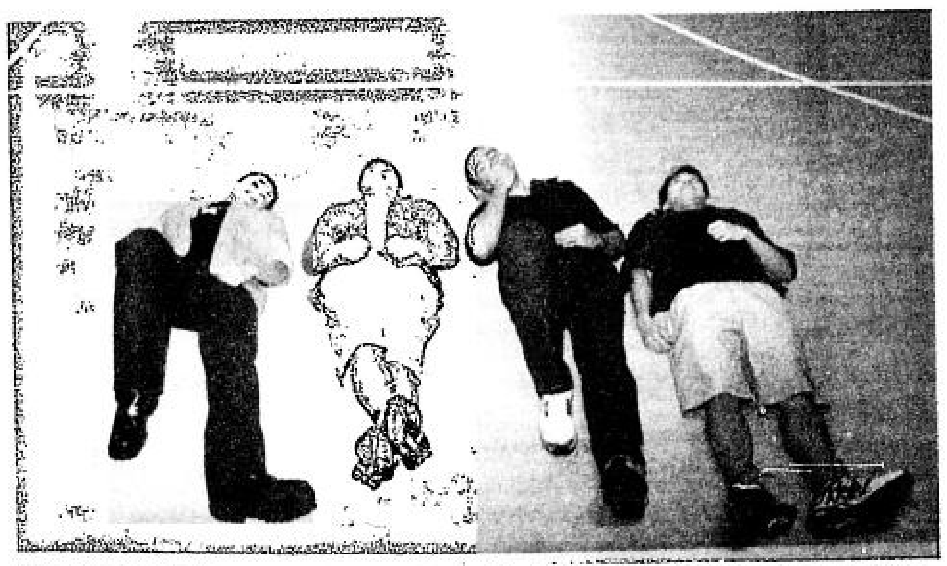
It's a toss up between NU's Alfie Grijaldo and DLSU's Mike Cortez for the earliest bird award. The DLSU Green Archers were the first to arrive and the last were the Ateneo Blue Eagles, who couldn't help it because they had to come straight from a game. The players were all, well, game as they posed and smiled, very much like the pros that they are. Of course, some of them were itching to play ball instead of preening in front of the camera. All of them were real troopers as they patiently waited for the others so that they could all be together in one picture. Sorry to disappoint the fans of archrivals DLSU and ADMU but no heated exchanges occurred between former Atenean BJ Manalo and the Blue Eagles. Although they confirmed several times, the UST Growling Tigers defaulted as they did not show up. Attention Tigers: Belated excuses and apologies are sometimes not enough, especially when it's something that involves a lot of people.

It was UAAP (and PBL) basketball superstar Ren Ren Ritualo who pointed out the significance of the pictorial. "This has never been done before," he proudly declares. Since all of them are winners in our books, we took it upon ourselves to bestow on them special "distinctions." All in the spirit of fun, we would like to say.

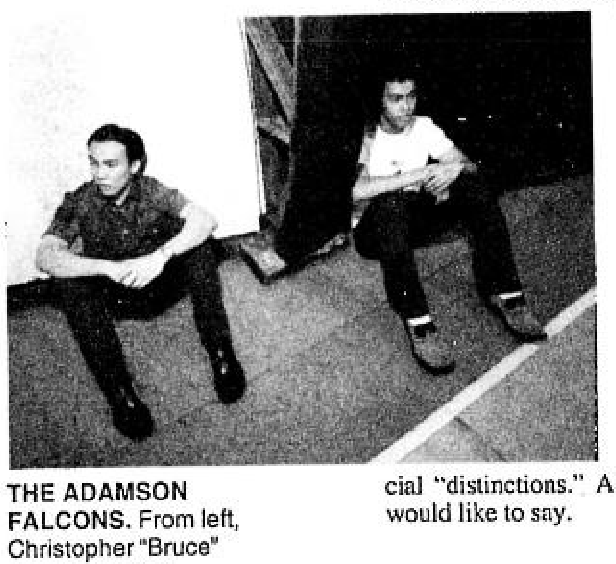
Jules Alcantara

Learn more about your favorite basketball player's profile and winning moments. Check out the official UAAP site at http://sports.pinoycentral.com and click on the UAAP online logo.

Watch out for Anonymous' fashion show on March 10 at the NBC Tent, The Fort. Show starts at 9.

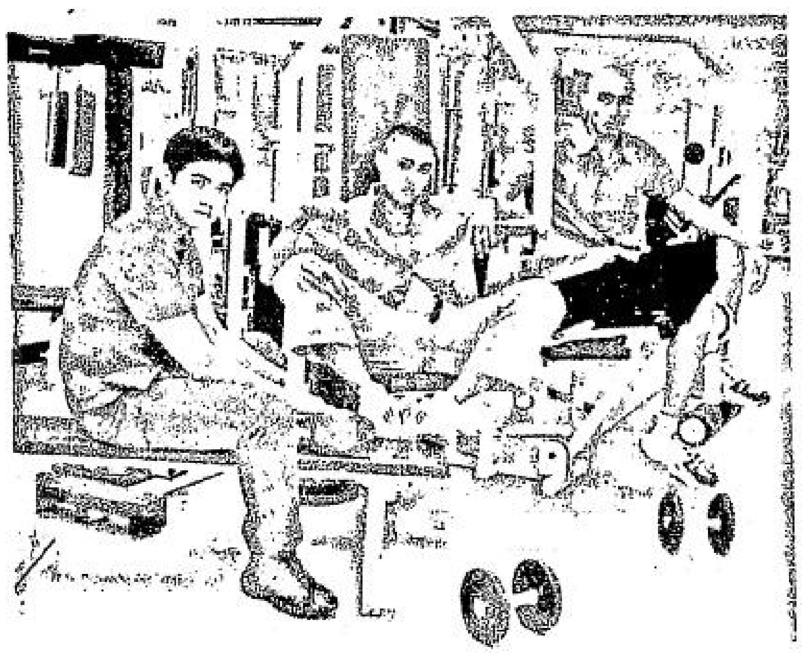


THE UP MAROONS. From left, Mike Bravo, Mark Jomalesa, Toti Almeda and Xavier Nunag

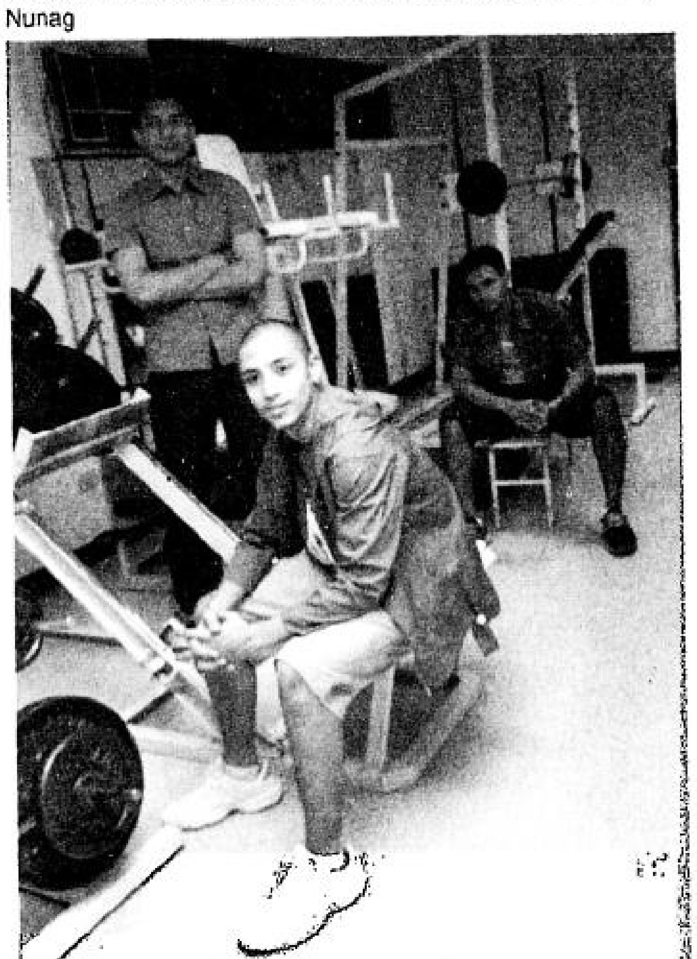


THE ADAMSON FALCONS. From left, Christopher "Bruce" Lee and Emilor Malana

CLOTHES BY ANONYMOUS
LOCATION: RFM GYM, MANDALUYONG

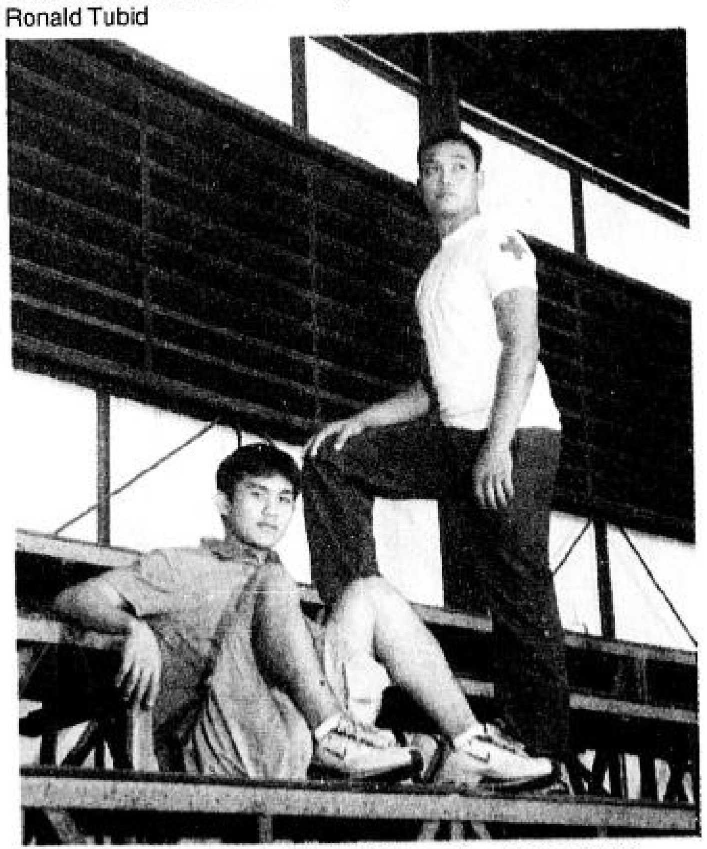


THE DLSU GREEN ARCHERS. From left, BJ Manalo, Ren Ren Ritualo and Mike Cortez

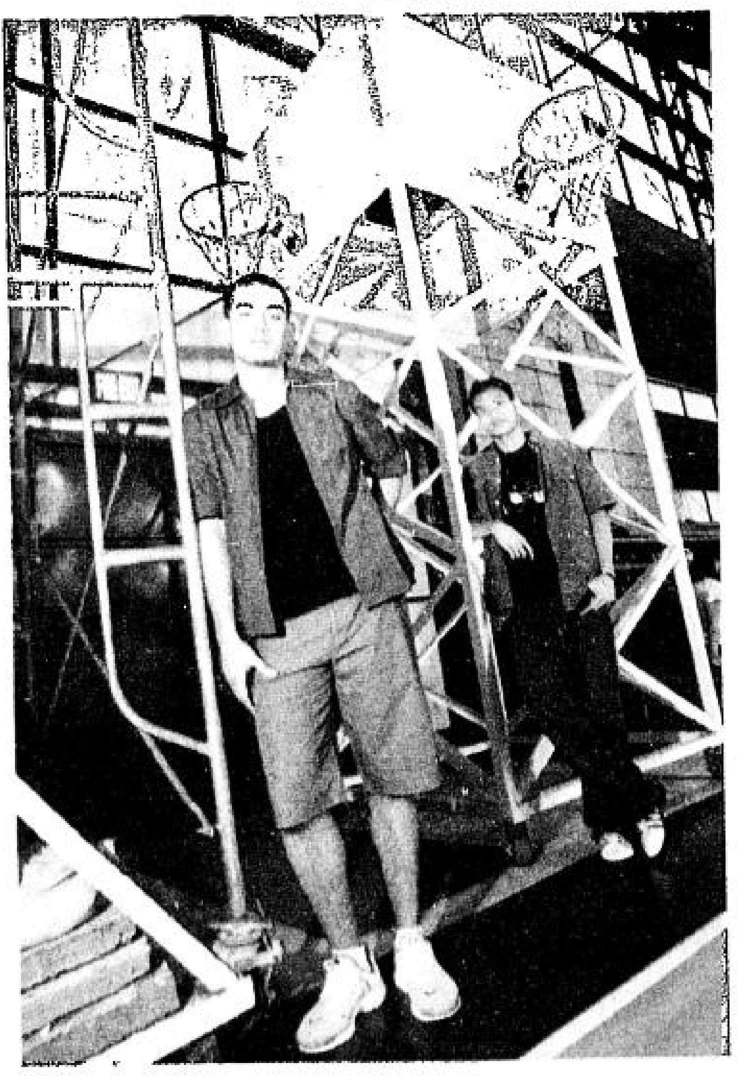


THE UE WARRIORS. From left, James Yap, Paul Artadi and Ronald Tubid

THE ADMU BLUE EAGLES. From left, Magnum Membrere and Larry Fonacier



THE NU BULLDOGS. From left, Chico Manabat and Alfie



THE FEU TAMARAWS. From left, Miko Roldan and Rhagnee Sinco

THE 2bU AWARDS

Early-bird awards:
Alfie Grijaldo, NU Bulldogs
Mike Cortez, DLSU Green Archers ("I was here at 5:30!")

Most likely to follow in the footsteps of his idol Rommel Adducul:
Emilor Malana, Adamson Falcons

Would have been a karate expert if not for basketball:
Christopher "Bruce" Lee, Adamson Falcons

The easiest to dress up ("Don't worry, you look good!"):
Paul Artadi, FEU Tamaraws

Most likely will not end up as an "Ordinary student":
Ronald Tubid, FEU Tamaraws

Most comfortable with the camera:
James Yap, FEU Tamaraws

Would be flying your plane if it were not for basketball:
Chico Manabat, NU Bulldogs

"Don't quit on us" award:
Larry Alexander Fonacier, Admu Blue Eagles

Most likely to hang out with the Jesuits
Magnum Membrere, Admu Blue Eagles

"Are you a model or a player?" award:
Mike Bravo, UP Maroons

Most likely to become the next athlete-politician:
Mark Jomalesa, UP Maroons

Kevin Garnett disciple:
Xavier Nunag, UP Maroons

The baby of the group:
Toti Almeda, UP Maroons

The first one to say yes, and the most *kalog* award:
Ren Ren Ritualo, DLSU Green Archers

The one who took our breath away award:
BJ Manalo, DLSU Green Archers

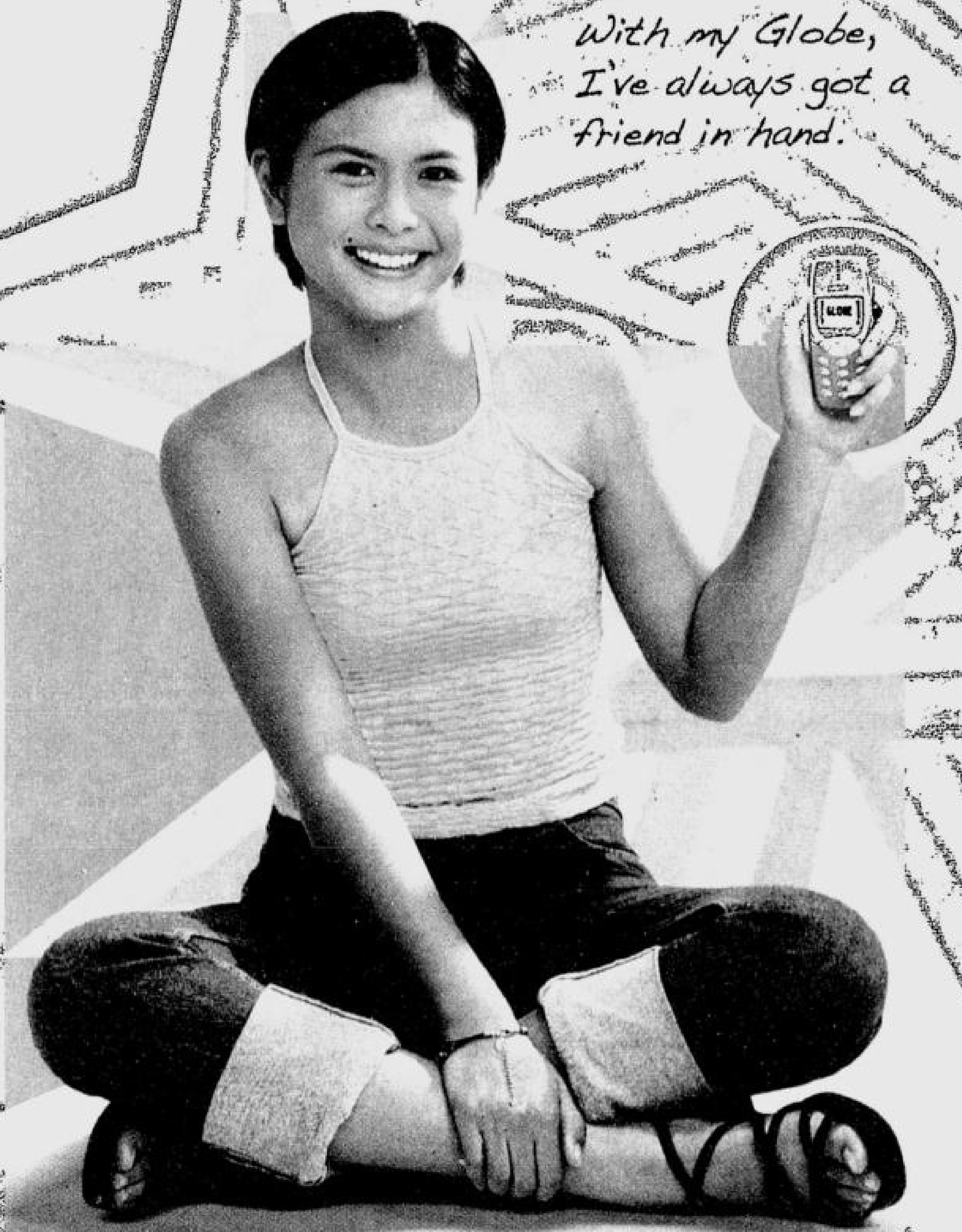
Would have been a good chef if it were not for basketball:
Miko Roldan, FEU Tamaraws

"Don't wear the shirt that way!!" Award:
Ragnee Sinco, FEU Tamaraws

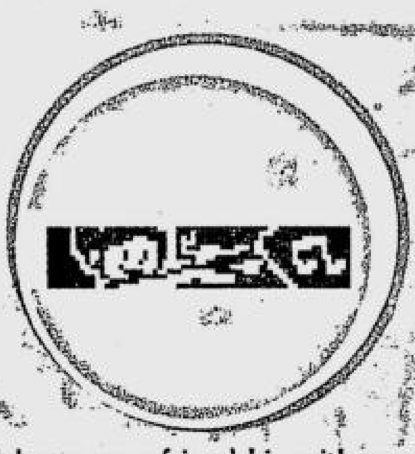
Globe Handyphone wants you to meet your constant digital companion

Globe Virtual Friend

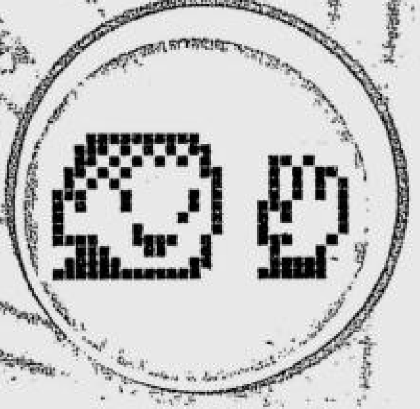
Get a Virtual Friend in your phone and discover the many fun things you can do together.


With my Globe, I've always got a friend in hand.

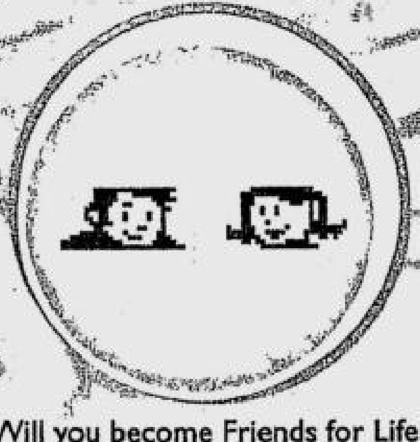
Go party. Dine together. Watch movies.



Celebrate your friendship with music.



Keep a picture of your digital friend in your phone.



Will you become Friends for Life?

What happens next to you and your Virtual Friend is up to you. The more love and care you give your Virtual Friend, the better your relationship will be. When it comes to such lovable services, Globe is all you'll ever need.

wsa
wireless services asia

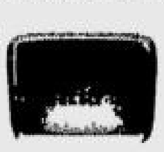
Globe
HANDYPHONE
It's all in your hands
Hotline: 730-1000 / www.globe.com.ph

Here's how to meet your Virtual Friend:

1

Get introduced to your Virtual Friend by keying-in: **boy [desired name of your friend] or girl [name of friend]** and send it to 2333.

And here's what you can do together:

1


Things to do with your Virtual Friend
Listed below are the different actions you can do with your Virtual Friend:
letseat, letsparty, letswatch, letsstroll, letsrelax
Type-in the keyword and fill-in the details of what you want to do and send it to 2333. Your Virtual Friend will then reply to you.

2

Ask advice from your Virtual Friend
Find out what your friend has to say about your problems by keying-in: **should [then your question which can be answered with a "yes" or "no"]** then send it to 2333.

3

Know how you two are doing
Find out the status of your relationship by keying-in: **Hi [name of your Virtual Friend]** and send it to 2333.

Each successfully sent request to 2333 costs P2.00 for plan subscribers and P2.50 for Prepaid Plus.

Special Treats:

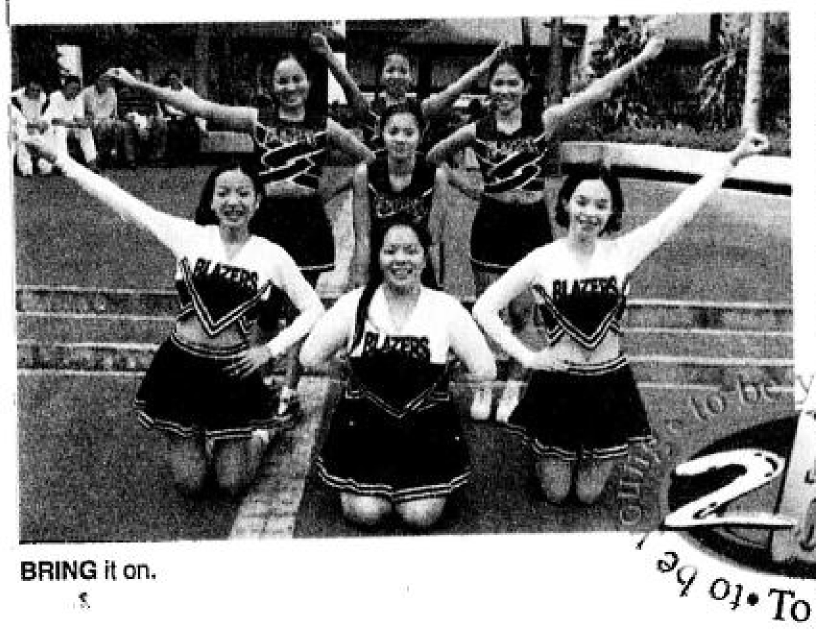
1

Get a Photo of your Virtual Friend
Key-in: **Take picture** and send to 2345. You will then receive a special GlobeIcon which shows the last activity you did together. (Only available for selected Nokia phones).

2

Get to hear your theme song
Key-in: **our song** and send to 2345. You will receive a special GlobeTone that says something about how well (or how bad) your friendship is going.

Each successfully sent request to 2345 costs P20.00 for plan subscribers and P25.00 for Prepaid Plus.



BRING it on.

WHO says cheerleading is just for girls?

READY for action

PHOTOS: ROGER MARGALLO

Green Peppers spice up CSB games

WHAT is a game, any sports game, without an organized cheering squad? No one will ever say it is complete, right? Sure, there will be patches of people rooting for their team or jeering and shouting colorful expletives at the opposing camp. But many will surely concur that any game is boring, lacking in spice, unless we witness a bunch of girls and boys in colorful outfits, all pepped up to raise the spirits of the fans, all hoping to further inspire their team to glorious victory.

One of the cheering squads that stand out in today's collegiate basketball leagues is the College of St. Benilde's Cheering Squad, more popularly known as the CSB Green Peppers.

When the College of St. Benilde decided to form its own identity separate from the De La Salle University in 1988, the creation of a separate basketball team that will represent the college followed. "We began to participate in the minor collegiate basketball leagues such as the NCRAA," narrates Raffy Punongbayan, one of the senior members of the CSB Pep Squad.

(FROM left) Mayet Castro, Franco Jayme and Say Yutadco

In line with this, a couple of members of the DLSU Main Pep Squad who studied in CSB decided to create a cheering squad for the college. As early as 1993, the Pep Squad had begun its formation, but it was only in 1994 that the first official batch of the Pep Squad was launched in the College Week of CSB. Nowadays, they lead in raising the Benildean school spirit in the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) basketball league.

The CSB Green Peppers used the La Sallian traditional cheers, but at the same time introduced innovations and new cheers to suit the identity of CSB.

The use of the same cheers poses no problems for both schools "*kasi* we're sister schools *naman eh*," explains Irvin Palacios, one of the Pep Squad's leading drum beaters. Although the CSB Green Peppers carry the traditional green white and black colors of La Salle, they sport a much darker hue of green, almost moss-like in shade.

So why are they called the Peppers? According to Franco Jayme, president of the Pep Squad, they got the inspiration from a drawing of one of the drummers. "We are here to add spice to the game," he explains.

Through the cheers and jeers

The job of a cheerleader is not at all glamorous. They may wear fancy uniforms and enjoy a certain amount of popularity among their schoolmates, but basically that's where it ends. The CSB Peppers practice every Saturdays, and more so during games and competitions. Not considered an athletic group, they are not given any extra privileges such as scholarships and benefits.

In fact, their task becomes much harder since they perform at half-time in the NCAA, wherein admittedly there is, for lack of a better word, a much "tougher" crowd to please. It's not at all a pretty job since the cheerleaders are exposed to a lot of elements that are not always pleasant.

For instance, sometime last year, one of the female cheerleaders was "tapped in the butt" by one of the players from a basketball team in Manila right after a performance. Although they complained and cried foul to the NCAA Board, no public apologies or suspensions were made to assuage the humiliation the female cheerleader experienced.

In another incident, the boys of the Pep Squad who came to the rescue of two Benildean students were "harassed" by one of the members of the alumni of the team they were going against. Last year, a fellow Benildean harassed the squad when they decided to endorse a political party in the Student Council elections. Despite these unfortunate incidents, the members of the squad are still persistent in their goal of elevating the Benildean school spirit.

A major challenge for the squad is inspiring their fellow schoolmates to cheer for the team. "We're still searching for our own identity as a school that's why some of the students are not that interested to cheer," Punongbayan says. "But with the victory of the CSB Blazers in the NCAA, I'm sure things will improve," Palacios adds.

Interestingly, the CSB Green Peppers are not allowed to do the archer stance (which is one of the symbols identified with all the La Sallian Schools) during their NCAA performances.

"Whether we win or lose, *tuloy pa rin ang palo.*"

Cheerleading, Pinoy style

What does it take to become a Benildean cheerleader? The guys have to go through a series of trials, one of which requires going "public"—they are asked to perform certain stunts in front of the students. "We want to see if they have the guts, because once they get accepted, they have to get used to performing in front of a big, tough crowd," Jayme explains.

"We don't have any height or weight requirements. We are not even really particular with looks. As long as they know how to dance, know how to do stunts, are dedicated and they have the right attitude," explains Sherylle Anne Yutadco, cocaptain of the Green Peppers and one of the most popular cheerleaders in the country.

In fact, it is a widely known fact that some of the members of the squad are a bit on the hefty side. Some quarters insist they do not fit in the typical cheerleader image, but Yutadco says the "bigger" girls of the squad are "very good." Yutadco, who was a cheerleader in Texas back in high school, says there is a big difference between the cheering style here and in the US where college cheerleading is elevated to a sports level. There are a lot of gymnastic stuff, a lot of lifting and basket tosses. Here it's really more on dancing and it's really more for entertainment," she explains.

One of the many reasons the Green Peppers stand out in the NCAA is the fact that they do pure cheering, as opposed to some cheering squads whose performances could very well be described as "Eat Bulaga" style—more on dancing and gyrating rather than cheering and chanting. Not exactly a sight to behold but just the same, they manage to pep up the crowd and make their school cheers unique and entertaining.

And the winner is . . .

The Green Peppers have been reigning RX 93.1 Cheerleading Champions for the last three years. The competition is open to all NCAA and UAAP cheering squads. In 1998, they won against the formidable cheering squads of University of the Philippines and University of Sto. Tomas. There were supposed to be four teams competing in the 1999 competition, but some of the teams (UP and UST) who were beset with injuries backed out, thus leaving CSB to compete with sister school, DLSU.

Some quarters suggested the competition be turned into an exhibition instead since both schools come from the same system. But this was not to happen since if they had both wanted to avoid competing with each other, one of them should have joined the RX 93.1 cheering competition to begin with.

The CSB Green Peppers emerged victorious over their neighbor on Taft Avenue. In 2000, the Peppers battled neck in neck with the acclaimed cheering squad from the University of Sto. Tomas. Again, the Green Peppers prevailed.

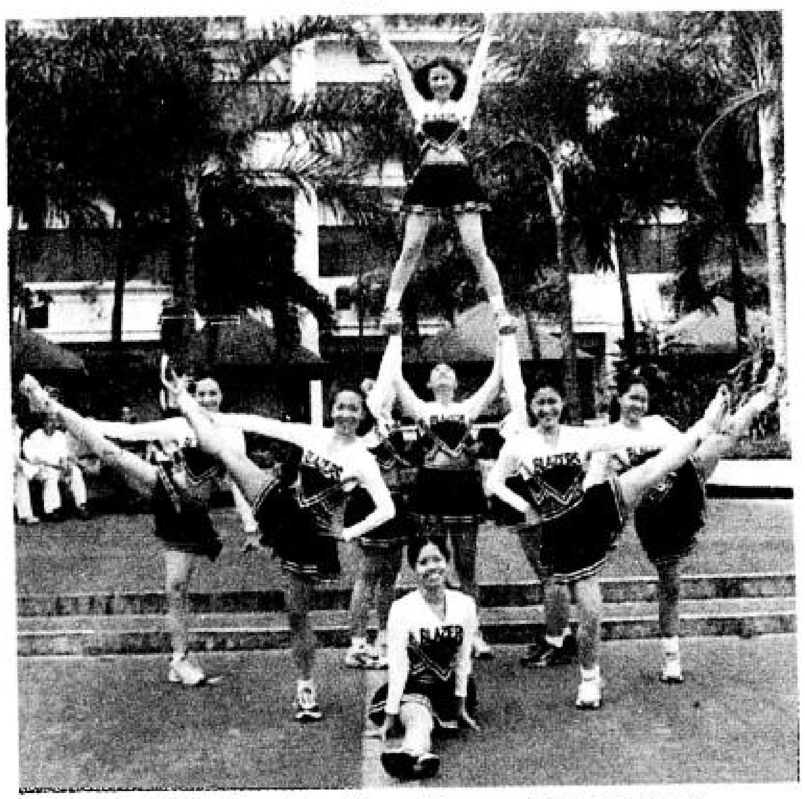
When asked who they admire among the cheering squads here in the Philippines, Franco Jayme says it is definitely the DLSU Pep Squad, the No. 1 on their list. "For us, they are the best in the UAAP! They're the ones that really do pure cheering," he says.

Despite their successes, the Green Peppers are still raring to prove themselves some more and excel in the field of cheerleading. They definitely have what it takes to jumpstart their team in the upcoming NCAA basketball season.

Definitely, a welcome "spice" to the game.

Jules Alcantara

E-mail the author at jules26@gurlmail.com



WOMEN POWER. The girls of Green Peppers cheer up a storm.

Sand, surf and spike

By Walter Ang

Now on its fifth year, the Nestea Beach Volley University Challenge promises a hot, sporty summer

SOME people spend their summer lying languorously under the sun. Other people use the opportunity to engage in outdoor activities.

Volleyball buffs will get a treat this summer as not one, not two, but three tournaments have been organized beginning February. Hoping to gather the country's top young athletes in hard-hitting action this summer, Nestea hosts all three volleyball tournaments as it launches its Beach Volley Series.

First is the Inter-Collegiate Beach Volleyball Tournament. When this tournament started in 1997, 48 teams from different colleges and universities signed up to take up the challenge in Puerto Azul and Subic. Most of the participants consisted of curious athletes from Metro Manila who wanted to try this new activity.

By the tournament's fourth year, a hundred teams joined. The participants came from different parts of the country. The venue was in Boracay, where the finals have since been held. Winners got the chance to represent the country in international beach volleyball competitions.

Now on its fifth year, the tournament has been rechristened the Nestea Beach Volley University Challenge. Elimination rounds were held from Feb. 21-25 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) Complex. People will have to hold their breaths for a few weeks since the semifinals and the championship rounds won't be held in Boracay until April 21-22.

Other tournaments

The Nestea National Open will be held for the first time on March 8-10 also at the CCP. Professional and amateur volleyball players across the country are expected to grace the event.

All the female winners from the National Open will represent the Philippines in the 2nd Nestea Asian Beach Volley Women's Championships. From March 30-April 1, beach volleyball stalwarts from various countries in the Asia-Pacific region will display their athletic form at the CCP. It seems Pinoys are always the first ones to set the pace when it comes to having fun since this particular tournament has been officially declared as the first leg of this year's Asian Beach Volleyball Circuit.

Don't abuse it

The tournaments serve a dual purpose of promoting a healthy and wholesome lifestyle this summer and raising public awareness on the need to preserve our local beaches—definitely two issues that are usually at the top of any youth's list of hot agendas. Beach shore and underwater clean-up have

been scheduled together with the games in Cebu, Anilao in Batangas, Puerto Galera in Mindoro, Cavite and Manila Bay.

Nestea has already spearheaded the clean-up by launching the "Love the Beach" program side by side with its Beach Volley series. The program brings together environmental groups, sea divers, athletes and the tourism sector. They've even brought in celebrities like VJ Bianca Araneta, who is the program's spokesperson. So start preparing those beach baskets, tote bags, and don't forget to pack those volleyballs!

E-mail comments to waltzang@mail.com

Colgate and **The Department of Education, Culture and Sports**

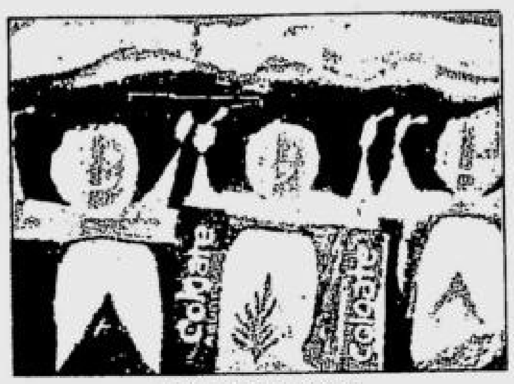
Bright Smiles, Bright Futures™

CONGRATULATE THE WINNERS OF THE FIRST

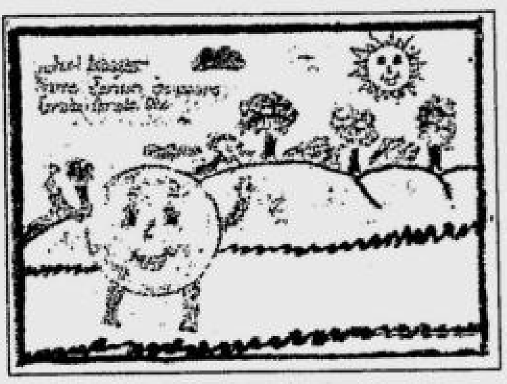
MY BRIGHT SMILE

POSTER CONTEST

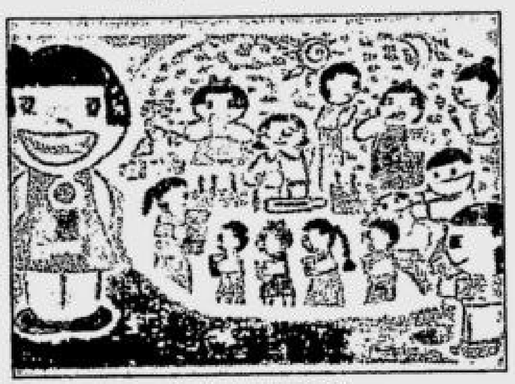
CONGRATULATIONS KIDS!



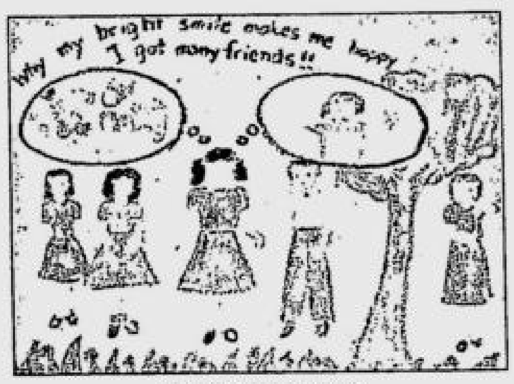
DAVE MARK S. CELUM
Grade 1 / 6 years old
Calbayog Pilot School, Western Samar



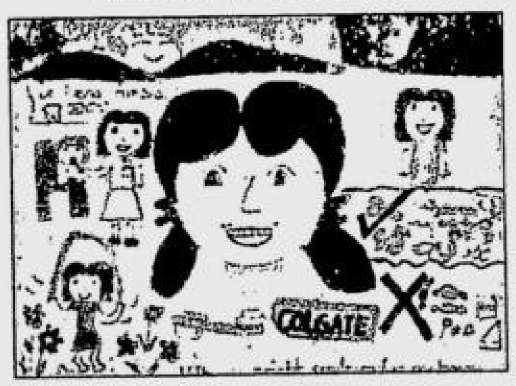
JENSON GELLACONE
Grade 1 / 7 years old
Nangka Elementary School, Cebu



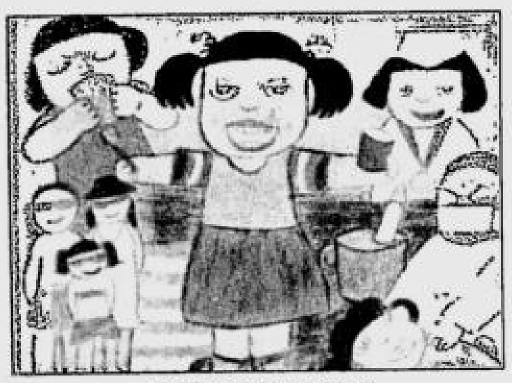
JESSICA T. ZAMORA
Grade 1 / 6 years old
Midsayap Pilot Elementary School, Cotabato


Why my bright smile makes me happy
I got many friends!!

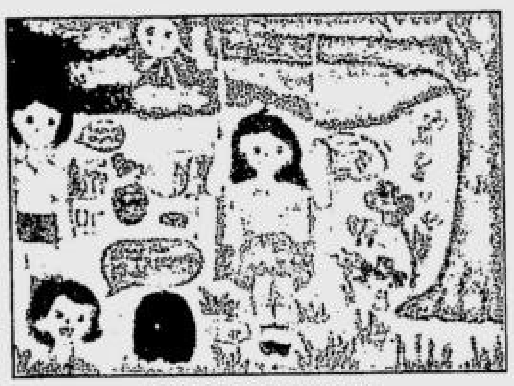
CES MIZPAH R. TINGA
Grade 1/ 6 years old
East Central Elementary School, Pangasinan



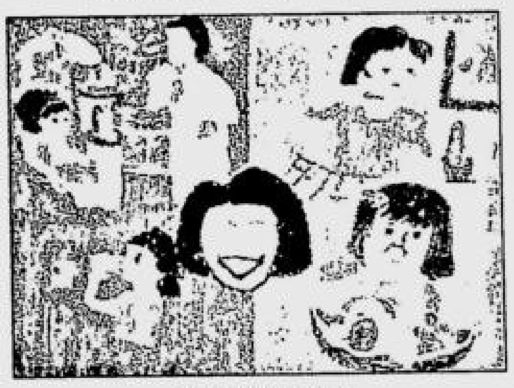
FAITH IRISH ASENSI
Grade 2 / 8 years old
Batangas City South Elementary School, Batangas



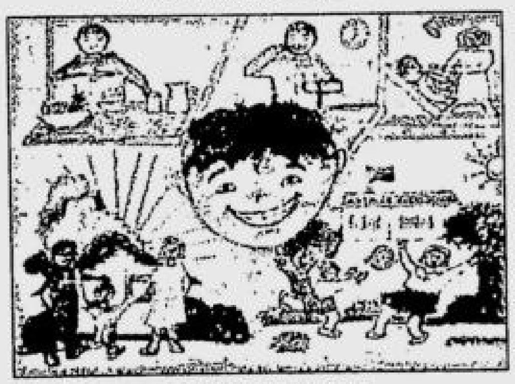
HEMELA JOYCE FILIPINAS
Grade 2 / 8 years old
Midsayap Pilot Elementary School, Cotabato



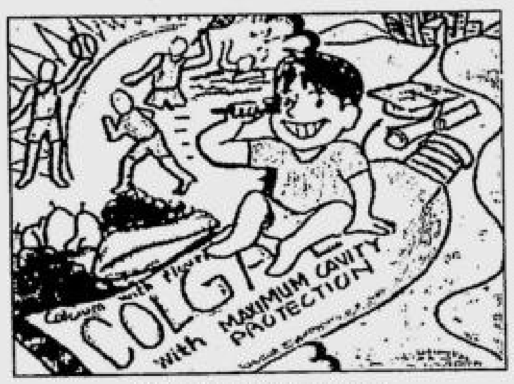
REGINE MAY P. LORENZO
Grade 2 / 7 years old
Tabang Elementary School, Bulacan



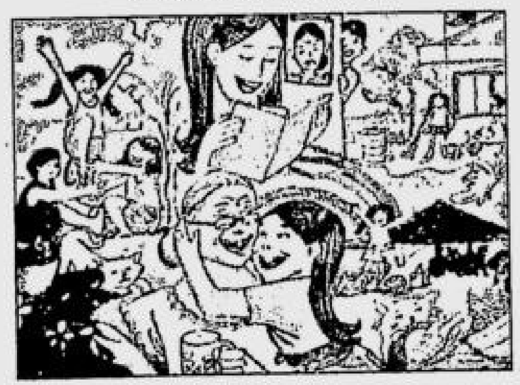
NIXSON SIBAYAN
Grade 2 / 7 years old
Puelay Elementary School, Pangasinan



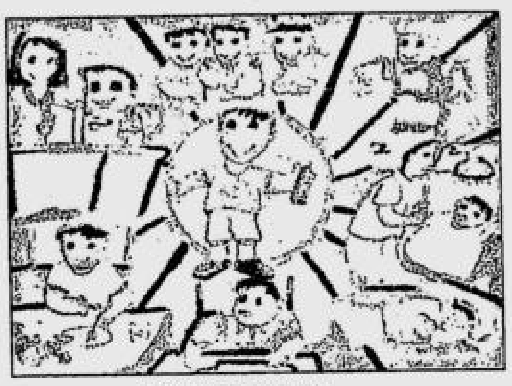
RALPHY BORLONGAN
Grade 3 / 9 years old
Amaya Elementary School, Cavite



STEPHEN WRIGHT CABASAL
Grade 3 / 8 years old
La Torre Elementary, Nueva Vizcaya



MA. KRISTINA NARESSA M. GALANG
Grade 3 / 8 years old
San Nicolas Elementary School, Pampanga



EYART JAZ SORIANO
Grade 3 / 9 years old
Sero Central School, Maguindanao

The "My Bright Smile" Poster Contest is part of Cogate's efforts of educating Filipino schoolchildren on proper oral health care. The contest was held during the weeklong celebration of "Schoolchildren's Oral Health Awareness Week." Colgate's Bright Smiles, Bright Futures Global Oral Health Education Program is currently integrated in the grades 1, 2 and 3 curricula of public elementary schools nationwide.

This autobiography rocks

The Rock Says… The Most Electrifying Man in Sports-Entertainment
By The Rock, with Joe Layden
Avon Books, 2000
417 pages

BY ANNE A. JAMBORA

REVIEW

HERE it is, guys, in black and white. The meanest heel in the history of the World Wrestling Federation who can pack more than 20,000 cult followers per show proves he cannot only kick your sorry candy ass to Jabroni Street, but he can also write a book. Well, sort of.

Sure, his is not the poignant autobiography in the league of Frank McCourt nor the literarily meritorious work of a Salman Rushdie but, hey, neither of them have The Rock's animal magnetism in the ring. Simply put: McCourt and Rushdie are gifted writers but The Rock is a talented showman. There's no point in comparing.

> The Rock makes no apology for what he does. Wrestling is entertainment, and he is a showman, not an athlete

But it does help that The Rock is one helluva mammoth fighting machine (at the pubescent age of 15, he already stood 6'4" and weighed 225 pounds) who has millions of fans worldwide dying to get a copy of his book, "The Rock Says… The Most Electrifying Man in Sports-Entertainment."

The Rock, with freelance writer Joe Layden, comes out with an autobiography that candidly tells it all—from tales of his childhood, his thoughts on being born into an illustrious wrestling family, his rough and slow climb to success and even an unfortunate coitus interruptus on the first time he had sex. Thump! Thump! If you wanna know it all, the book says it all.

Although some chapters are sketchy, The Rock manages to paint for you a picture of the other side of the testosterone-pumping WWF champ—that of the humble and hardworking Dwayne Johnson, replete with strong family values, and more. He is surprisingly honest and frank, even touching at times, in his unassuming scribbling.

Showman

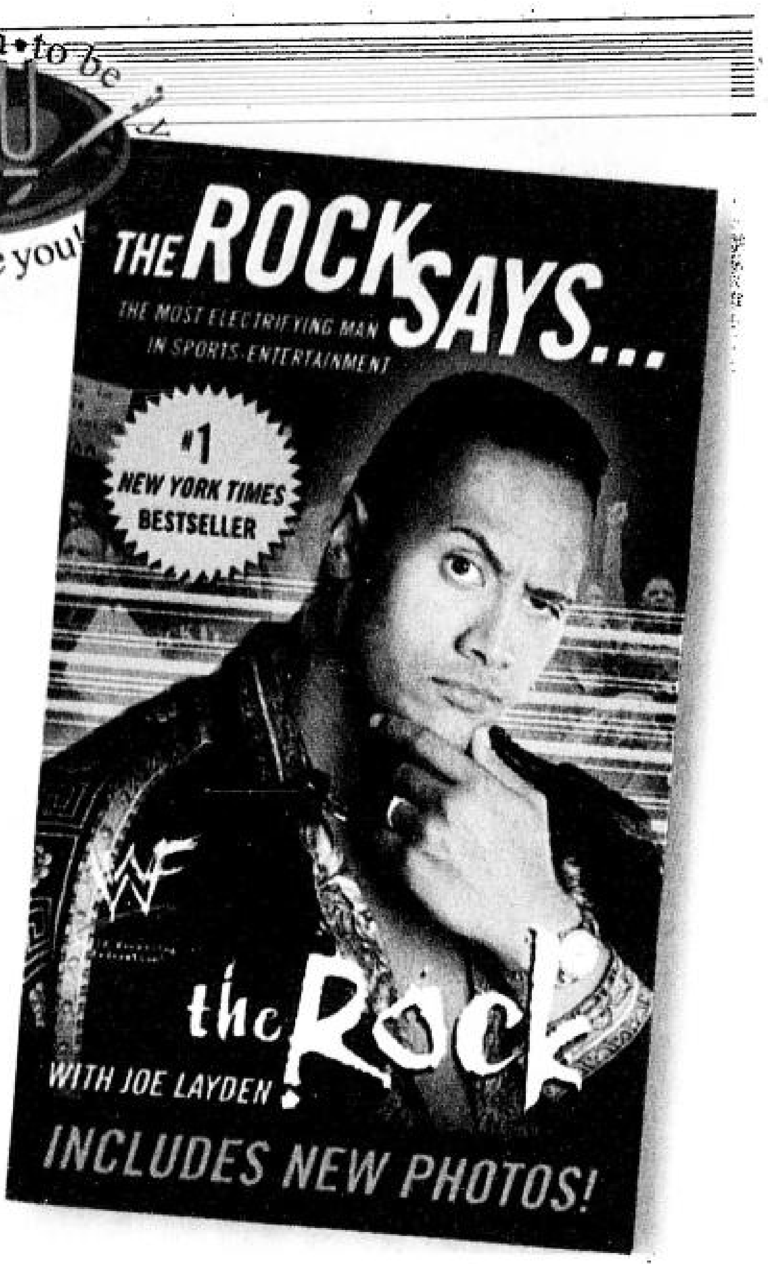
The grandson of a heavyweight wrestling champion, the Samoan Peter Mavia, and the son of the first African-American wrestling champ, Rocky Johnson, nobody can probably give you an insider's point of view on showmanship in sports entertainment like The Rock. And that's what he is, he insists—a sports entertainer, not an athlete.

After all, everyone knows the WWF is one electrifying show of muscles, sweat, bellowing and grunting androids and death-defying stunts. Oh yes, it is quite a spectacle. Says The Rock: "When you're selling, you're emoting, doing everything in your power to convince the audience that what they're seeing is real. Well, not *real*, but convincing, in a hyperbolic sort of way. The more you act, the more you sell… the better the show."

Yes, everything is scripted, right down to their every move—even the champ is already predetermined. But according to The Rock not everything goes smoothly, especially when some wrestlers start to believe in their own PRs and refuse to "drop the belt" (let the other guy win). But not him, not The People's Champion, who obstinately maintains he is a pro, and if he has to drop the belt in order to have a great show, he will.

The Rock also tells of his youthful dream of making it to the NFL after college, but instead finding himself with the Canadian Football League with a measly take-home pay of $175 a week—and that's for playing professional football! Worse, he had to live thousands of miles from his family and his college girlfriend Dany Garcia (who is now his wife and, by the way, a VP at Merrill Lynch).

It was hand-to-mouth for this giant during his Canadian stint, attending Friday meetings even if he wasn't required just so he could get free submarine sandwiches: "I'd eat half the sub that night, the other half for lunch on Saturday. Then I'd eat half of the second sub for dinner on Saturday, and the other half for lunch on Sunday."


THE ROCK SAYS…
THE MOST ELECTRIFYING MAN IN SPORTS-ENTERTAINMENT
#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
WWF
the Rock
WITH JOE LAYDEN
INCLUDES NEW PHOTOS!

Although The Rock on-cam is not big on kind words (nor is the book apologetic for the WWF lingo), he is disarmingly sensitive. In fact, he devotes a whole chapter to Owen Hart, whose tragic death in front of millions of wrestling fans caused heaps of criticisms on the WWF.

Freakish

While being born to a family of wrestlers is impressive, standing over 6' and weighing 170 pounds when you're only 13 can be freakish: "When you're put together like that, when you're fortunate enough to have a muscular body, and when you happen to have a famous father, you had to attract attention, some of which you don't necessarily want." And so it came that kids, 17 and 18 years old, wanted to get a piece of the 13-year-old boy.

He frankly talks about his boiling temper, like how he almost ripped off the tongue of his football teammate in college, or how he chased a terrified mascot in the football field in front of national television—and yet still more mishaps from this raging bull. (Incidentally, he says he's a Taurus.)

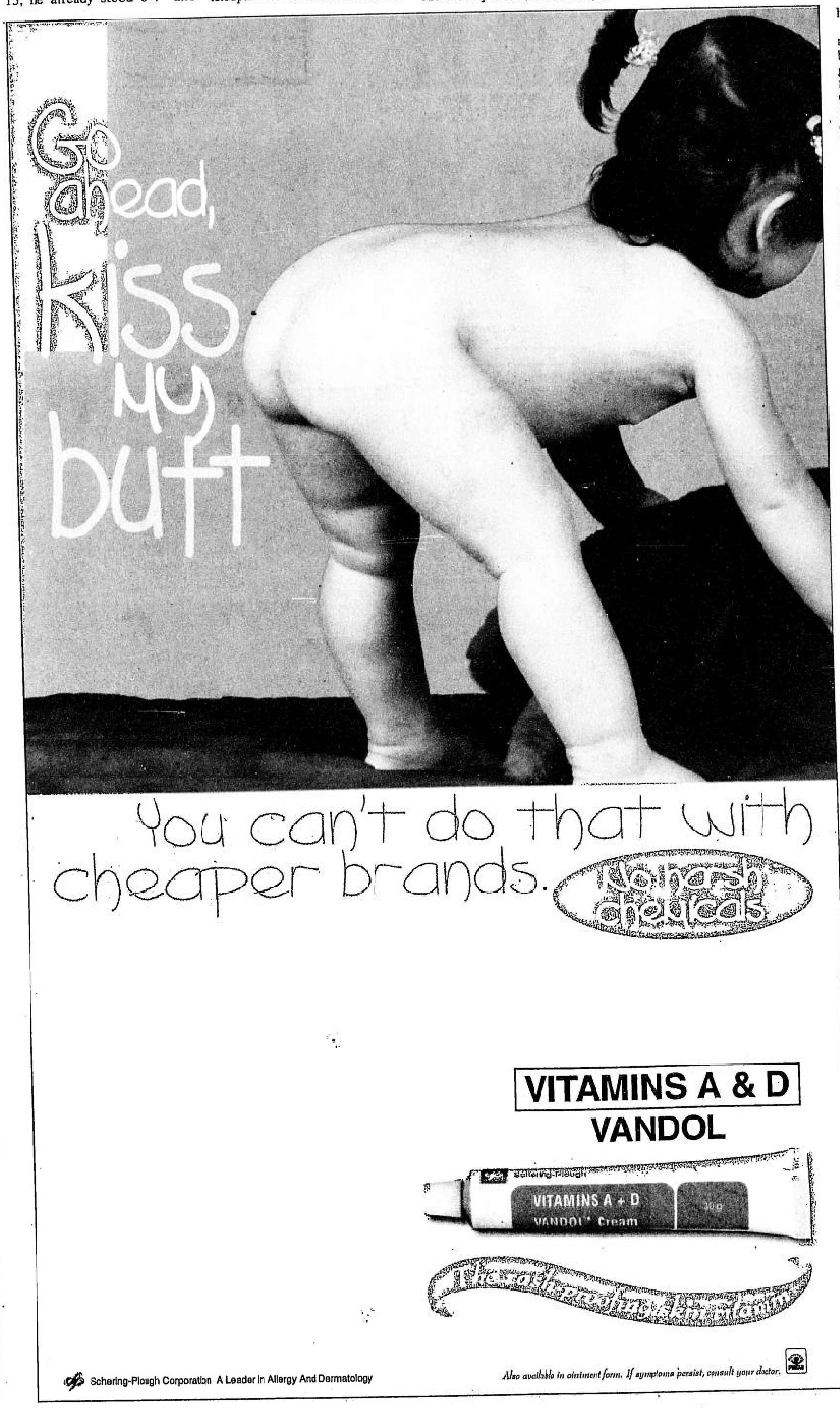
The books also tells of painful stories, sincerely and openly, like how his in-laws didn't like him at first—he is a colored man (half-black), who is three years younger than Dany (he admits attraction to older women) and he had no money. "Nothing had ever hurt more… This rejection was painful because it was an insult to my mom and dad. It was a slap in their faces, as if someone had said, 'What you've created is not good enough for my daughter.'"

Although The Rock's occasional humor, honesty and candor help you get through the book's pages, "The Rock Says" sorely lacks depth and soul. The book only gives you a glimpse of the man, like drinking coffee without first losing yourself in its invigorating aroma, without first allowing it to tickle your senses, before finally taking a sip.

But for wrestler wannabes, for diehard fans of wrestling and The Rock, for those who can't wait to see his act in the sequel to "The Mummy," go grab the book. Otherwise, go and have a cuppa.

Available at National Bookstore and PowerBooks

E-mail the author at splat_blag @excite.com


Go ahead, kiss my butt
You can't do that with cheaper brands.
No harsh chemicals
VITAMINS A & D
VANDOL
Schering-Plough
VITAMINS A + D
VANDOL* Cream
30 g
Schering-Plough Corporation A Leader In Allergy And Dermatology
Also available in ointment form. If symptoms persist, consult your doctor.

Essay-writing tilt on living Asian heroes launched

WHEN Ramon Magsaysay died in a tragic plane crash in 1957, the Philippines lost a president and Asia lost one of its greatest democratic leaders. Nevertheless, his life's work inspired philanthropist John D. Rockefeller III to honor the men and women who embody "greatness of spirit" by creating the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation. Through a generous endowment from the Rockefeller Brothers Foundation, the Award was inaugurated on Aug. 31, 1958, honoring its first recipients in five categories: Vinoba Bhave (India, Community Leadership), Dr. Chiang Mon-Lin (Taiwan, Government Service), Operation Brotherhood (Philippines, International Understanding), R. McCulloch Dick and Mochtar Lubis (Philippines and Indonesia, respectively, for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts) and Mary H. Rutnam (Sri Lanka, Public Service).

Over the years, the roster of esteemed awardees have grown to include such eminent personages like spiritual leader Tenzin Gyatso, the XIV Dalai Lama of Tibet; missionary of mercy Mother Teresa of Calcutta, legendary filmmaker Akira Kurosawa, distinguished musician Ravi Shankar, pioneering pediatrician Fe del Mundo, fearless female cop Kiran Bedi, community organizer Angela Gomes and housewife-turned-president Corazon C. Aquino, among many others.

Today, the Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation continues its goal of recognizing men and women who, like the late Filipino president, have worked to build a free world where people lived in honor and at peace with one another. Since its inception, the Award has been given to over 200 individuals and organizations in 20 Asian countries and territories.

This year, students from across the country will get another chance at honoring the Ramon Magsaysay awardee whose life has inspired them most with the recent launching of the 2001 Ramon Magsaysay Student Essay Writing Competition. Open to all bona fide high school and college students, the competition aims to inculcate "greatness of spirit" in our Filipino youth through the sterling example of the "living Asian heroes" in our midst—as embodied by over 200 Ramon Magsaysay awardees since 1958.

According to RMAF president Carmencita Abella, the essay writing competition is one of the Foundation's activities directly geared at offering today's youth an opportunity to discover the men and women who have displayed exemplary valor and compassion in their everyday lives, and at the same time, animate them to demonstrate the same selfless leadership in their own lives.

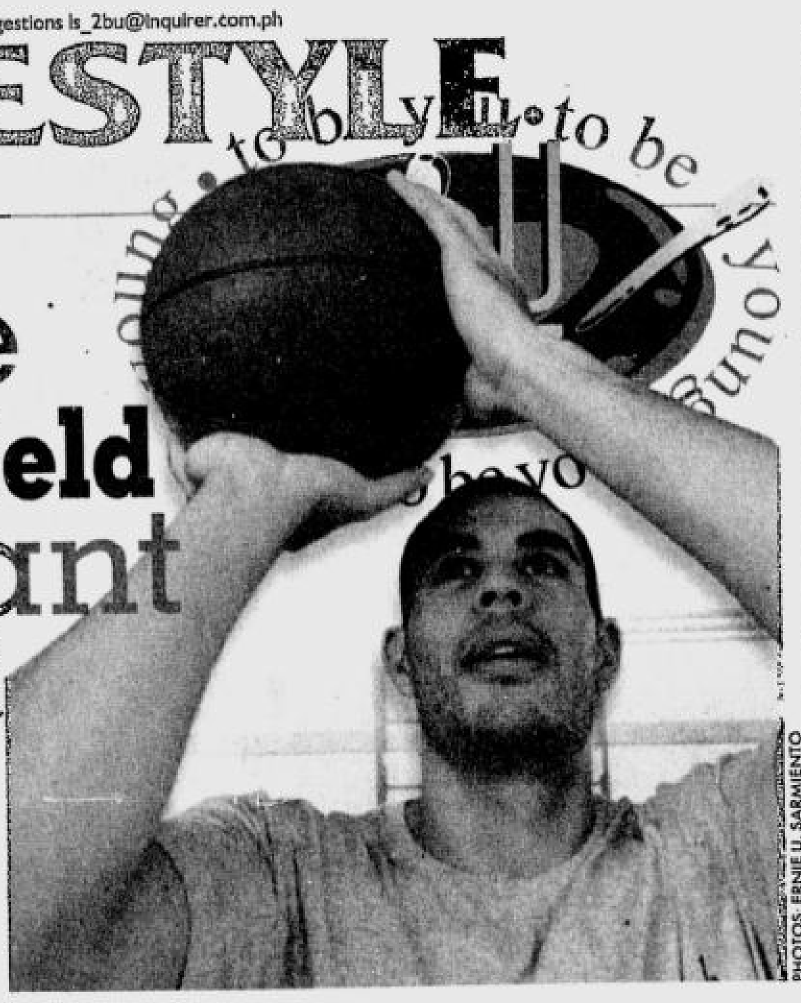
Entries will be classified into regional clusters: Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and the National Capital Region (Metro Manila). From each cluster, three essays will be selected as regional finalists in the high school and college levels. These will then automatically vie for the national grand prizes in these two categories. Prizes include P100,000 for the national grand-prize winners, and a personal computer for each of the regional-prize winners and their respective schools.

All entries must be original essays written in English, with an estimated length of between 500 to 1,000 words. Deadline for submission is on July 15. Winners will be announced in August, to coincide with the annual Magsaysay Festival Month and the awarding ceremonies of the Ramon Magsaysay Foundation Award winners for 2001.

Call the RM Student Essay Writing Competition Secretariat at 893-5690/5642, or e-mail essay@rmaf.org.ph. Entry forms will soon be available at schools and universities nationwide.

For feedback or suggestions ls_2bu@inquirer.com.ph

LIFESTYLE


to be young • to be young

PHOTOS: ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Gentle Rudy Hatfield takes a giant leap forward

By Jules Alcantara

"I USED to be a really fat kid!"

Nothing earth-shaking about the statement, right? But it does sound a bit shocking especially when it comes from someone like Rudy Hatfield, who is known for being one of the most powerful and brawny Fil-Am basketball players in the PBA today. It does take a stretch to imagine the 23-year-old Michigan-born as a tub of lard during his childhood. The first time we saw Rudy in person during Pop Cola's first game, we could not help but notice that his muscles were showing even though his arms were still not yet fully flexed. He looked quite intimidating. In person, he is the total opposite. The droopy-eyed Fil-Am is child-like and quite harmless.

Formerly of Laguna Lakers in the MBA and Tanduay (or as he says it in his quaint Detroit accent, "tendooway"), Hatfield is now one of Pop Cola Panthers' newest gunners. This small forward is creating waves and making a name for himself. In fact, it is not an exaggeration to say that among the recent Fil-Ams who have invaded the league, Rudy is a cut above the rest.

Truth to tell, the interview almost did not happen for it was scheduled at what turned out to be a most inopportune time. It was held the day after his "surprise" arrest at the RFM for the fracas that involved him and another player, Ira Clark. Thank God for Mr. Elmer Yañga of RFM who managed to convince Rudy to grant 2bU! an interview. Albeit we wanted to ask him about the case, he politely declined to talk about the issue. Despite this, Rudy was a real trooper from beginning to end.

Detroit days with Dad

Born and bred in Detroit, Michigan, Rudy grew up as a "loner." His sister is seven years older and his younger brother is 10 years younger. It was the huge disparity in ages that somehow

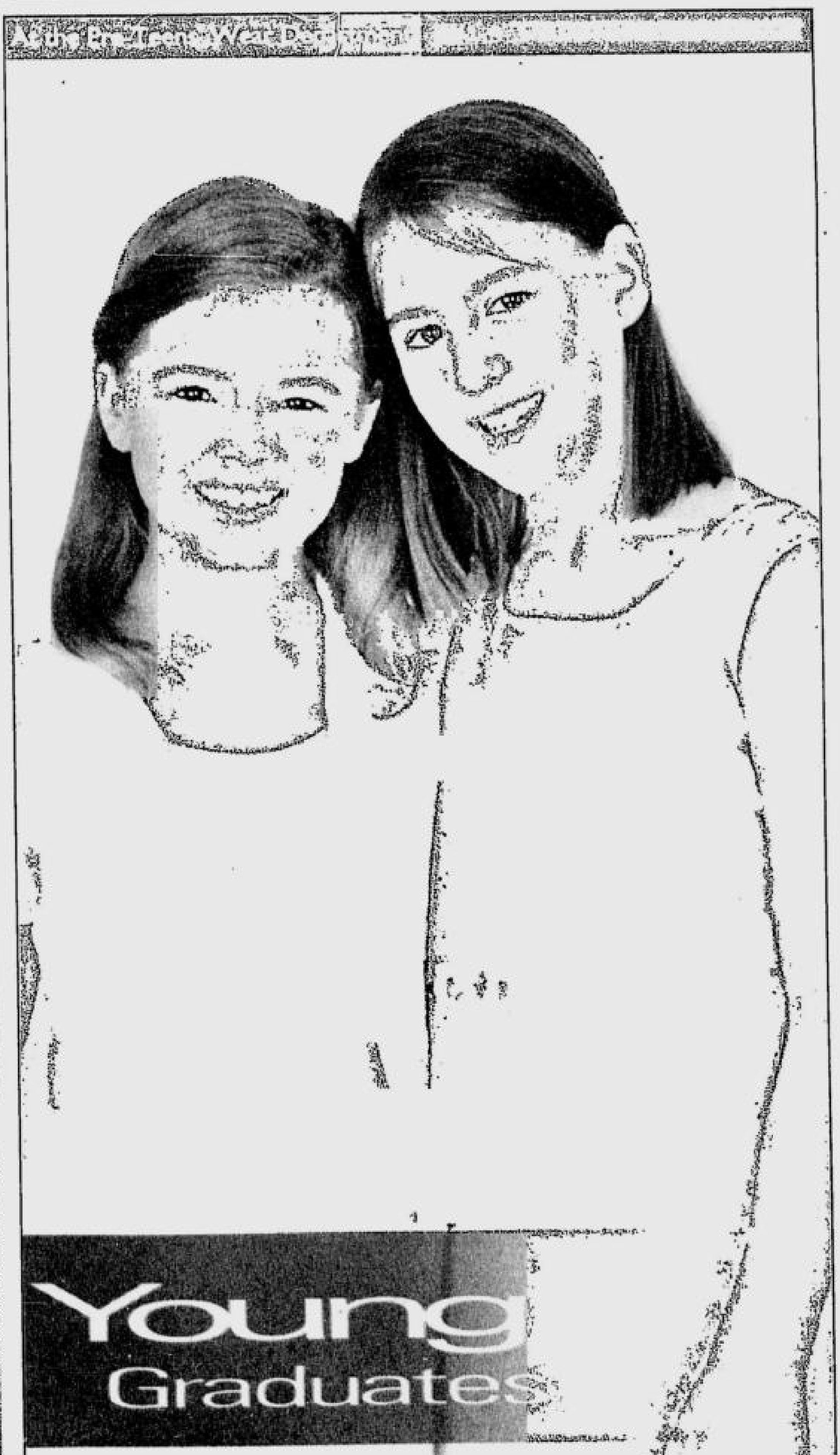
GENTLE/p.D2

SKIN CHECK
SYRINGOMA WARTS SCARS
WRINKLES PIGMENTATION PIMPLES
Do you have these skin problems? Come to Dermatrium and experience the difference! We have painless removal of warts and wrinkles, A.H.A. and Esthetics TX for scars Ozone Bio Fusion
for acne, Noselifting, Eyebags Removal, Liposuction, Breastlifting, Scar Revisions, Facelifting and many more extensive treatments- all under one roof!
CALL OR VISIT US TODAY!
DERMATRIUM
SKIN & COSMETICS SURGERY CLINIC
UP TO 20% OFF ON ALL TX'S
MAKATI: G-11 Prince Plaza I, 106 Legaspi St., Legaspi Village, Makati City • Tel Nos.: 893-5449 • 893-5387 • 893-5403
QUEZON CITY: 1157-C MRE Bldg., Quezon Ave., Q.C. • Tel Nos.: 374-5174 to 374-5175
ALABANG: UG-6 Industrial Enterprises Business Center, Alabang-Zapote Road, Alabang, MM • Tel Nos.: 807-4403 to 807-4404
WE ALSO OFFER SLIMMING TREATMENT!

SM FOUNDATION, INC. people, helping people.
Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services
Department of Social Welfare and Development
Share Your Extras
Spare some time to sort out your excess clothes, shoes and house ware, and share these with the less fortunate. These "extras" will go a long way in helping families in the poorest municipalities in the Philippines!
Each donation will entitle you to a cash coupon from the SM Homeworld. Visit our donation booths at the SM Supermalls from February 20 to March 21, 2001.
RPN MAGIC 89.9 88.3 103.5 K-Lite
SM SUPERMALLS
THE CITY • CENTERPOINT • MEGAMALL • SOUTHMALL • CITY BACOOR
CITY FAIRVIEW • CITY MANILA • CITY ILOILO • CITY CEBU • CITY PAMPANGA

Passion, Violence, Blood, Sweat, Chills, Thrills
All these at Plantation Bay's
Summer Frolix
Annual Summer-Long Festival
March 1 to June 30, 2001
(Holy Week, April 12 - 14, and Japanese Golden Week, April 28-May 5, excluded)
FOR PHILIPPINE RESIDENTS ONLY

2 rooms P 4,500 net per room
3 rooms P 4,000 net per room
4 rooms P 3,500 net per room
5 rooms P 3,000 net per room
YUPPIES
Beach bonfires with retro music, Discover Scuba sampler, aqua-aerobics, Self improvement and relaxation subliminal tapes(free with a paid massage). Beer drinking contests, Body Sculpting, Latin Aerobics, Taebo, Group Running.
YOUNG FOLKS
Sony Play Station video games, Kite-flying and Kite-making, Martial arts exhibitions, Pony rides, Contests with prizes, Scavenger Hunt, Fish-feeding, Origami, Face-painting sessions, Scheduled Parties with Clowns and Puppet Shows, Tamiya Car Racing.
TEENS
Billiard competitions, Fishing, Croquet (take our word for it, a great way to make friends with TOS Teens of Opposite Sex), Rappeling, Archery, Airgun Shooting, Guitar lessons, Organized coed sports.
MOM & DAD
NOTHING.
PEACE and RELAXATION
(but if you really want something to do, we've got plenty, call for details)
Plantation Bay Mactan
www.plantationbay.com
PLUS
The following at low, low prices: Jet-skis, motorboats, Hobie Cats, water-skiing, scuba diving, Yacht cruises, kayaks and paddle-wheel boats, banana boats, Henna tattooing, Catamaran Cruise, Dance and Cooking lessons, Wall climbing, Paintball and Island hopping
Call Manila 844-5024, 844-5025, & 844-5029 or in Cebu 340-5900 & 340-5986
Call toll-free from anywhere in the Philippines: 1-800-1-888-7788
RESERVE NOW!



Young Graduates
PAPER KIDZ
We've got it all for you!
SM DEPARTMENT STORE
QUIAPO • MAKATI • CUBAO • HARRISON • NORTH EDSA • STA. MESA • ORTIGAS • LAS PIÑAS • BACOOR • FAIRVIEW • MANILA • PAMPANGA • ILOILO • CEBU

Gentle Rudy Hatfield takes a giant leap forward

The hot-shooting Fil-Am member of Pop Cola is a mama's boy and a papa's pride. The 6'4" forward also adores Walt Disney movies

(From page D1)

contributed to his becoming a loner.

"I was a really quiet kid, and I was almost always by myself," he says. He also attributes this to his being "short, really pudgy and really fat" during his childhood. "I didn't have a lot of friends and I basically just hung out by myself."

According to Rudy, he learned the fundamentals of the game from his father. His earliest memory of playing ball was when he was 7 and his father, who was a coach of a team, built him a little basketball hoop in their backyard. It was his dad who got him interested in sports since he himself was a kick-boxer. "He coached me in baseball, football and basketball. I think he even raised me to become a kick-boxer," Rudy says of his dad. "He was not a big guy, only 160 pounds during his boxing career, but he was, and up to this very day, the strongest man I ever knew," he says proudly. The young loner looked up to his dad so much that he practically followed him everywhere.

He was still fat and out of shape when he entered high school. Although he was really into a lot of sports, he was not "really athletic at all." In fact, when he was 16, his height was 5'6" and he weighed 195 pounds. "All baby fat and no muscles," he confesses with a laugh. Rudy wistfully recalls he once tried out for the high school varsity team but was cut due to his weight.

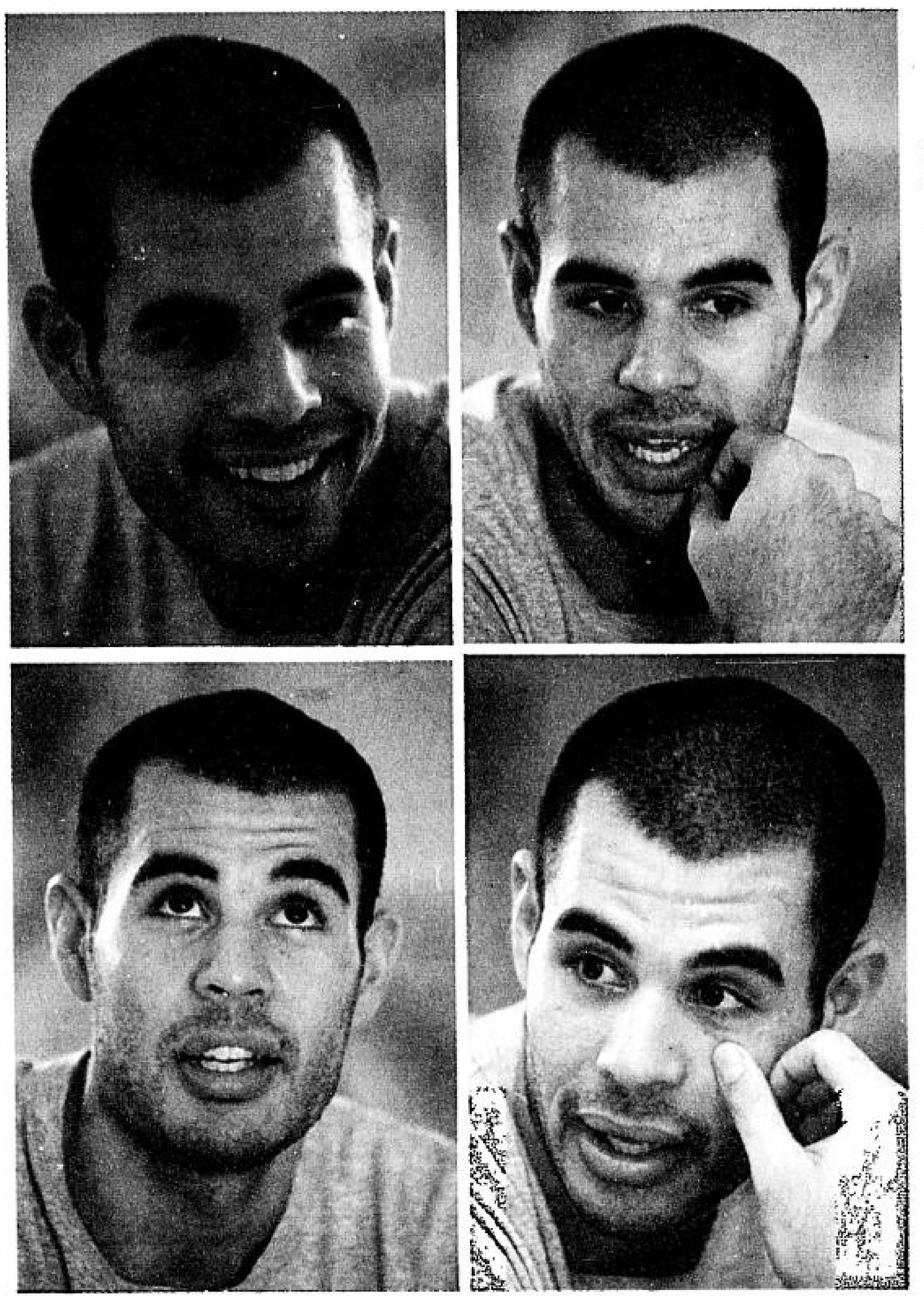
It was only until his senior year that he was able to enter the basketball team. "In one summer, I grew 6 inches and I guess all my fat got stretched and I got really skinny," he says.

He says that although he did nothing spectacular during his high school stint with the basketball team, it provided impetus for him to pursue his dream of playing basketball. He played for two years in junior college and then transferred to the University of Michigan-Dearborn to play for the varsity college team.

Admittedly, he entered college to play ball. He was quite young at that time and although he had no clear idea of what he wanted to take, he knew that he would do something that was related to sports. But one of PBA's most popular Fil-Ams says, "Never in my wildest dreams did I ever think that I would ever play ball professionally."

Manila and Mom

It was a call from a friend who was already playing for Laguna Lakers that started Rudy's journey to his mother's country. After playing for the MBA team for four months, Rudy went back to Michigan for a vacation. Although his mom missed him terribly while he was away, she was the biggest help in fixing the papers he needed once he decided to join the PBA. Together with his newfound agent, Rudy's mother paved the way for the small forward to finally play professionally in her home country.



Rudy says that it is his mother that supports him more than anyone else. He says she told him, "Whatever you want to do it's okay, just remember to come home."

It was evident during the interview that Rudy misses his mom and family terribly. "As far as my mom is concerned, I am still her little boy," he says with a big grin.

His mother has always been his biggest fan. Ever since high school, she has kept records of his statistics and achievements. Her mother forward to the whole family all the information and features she comes across on the Internet about Rudy.

If it weren't for superior technology, Rudy would not be able to be constantly get in touch with his mom and family who are all scattered all over the US. "My mom gets corny and out of control sometimes, but she truly is my No. 1 fan," he says.

Although his parents are now divorced, he is still very much close to both of them and always makes time to see them when he goes back to the US for Christmas vacation.

Rituals and high socks

Off the court, Rudy says sleep, movies and food keep him occupied. When he's not in the gym lifting weights or practicing with the team, he is back at his place sleeping soundly. "Off the court, I'm really lazy! I just eat and sleep," he tells us.

Rudy says that he does not mind eating out alone or watching movies by himself. His recent movie favorites include "Something About Mary" and "Gladiator."

The self-confessed movie buff says that even his pre-game ritual includes watching at least one Disney movie. "I have to watch or else I'll go crazy on the court during the game," he says, adding that watching cartoons restrains his excitement before a game. He boasts he has seen most of the Disney movies and keep in fact quite a collection. Ironically, Rudy does not have a copy of his ultimate favorite, "Alladin." "I really want to get a copy of that," he says.

A post-game ritual of his is to indulge in "the worst food possible like a cheeseburger, fries, hotdogs, pizza, the works," he says with relish. It's the least he can do since his whole week is spent on eating healthy.

Rudy is quite goofy, very much the opposite of his on-court buff and *barako* image. So when I asked him to choose between wearing high socks and really short shorts during a game, he replies, "Oh, I got a little surprise for the playoffs!"

Work ethic

Basketball fanatics have surely observed Rudy's exemplary work ethic. In fact, Rudy has gained the admiration of a lot of aficionados because he is *masipag* on the court, very relentless in his drive to score points for his team.

He literally comes out of nowhere to translate his spectacular rebounds into sure points for his team. "I guess I'm just lucky that the ball falls into my hand," he explains. Quite a perfectionist and competitive, not just once has he been observed talking or berating himself for turnovers that he has committed.

When asked to describe the adjustments he has made in his game since he got here in Manila, he replies, "Here it is more mental. Defense is a lot harder to play here. Everything is kind of slowed down and at the half-court, you gotta use your skills."

He says that he has gained a lot of confidence in his game. It is perhaps this, plus his exemplary work ethic, that has helped Rudy to become one of the best players in the league.

Rudy says that he is adjusting well to his new team, although he has yet to get to really know his teammates. "I was really close to my teammates in Tanduay, but you know, basketball players have a special bond. It's just that I'm really new and still trying to figure out stuff. But once you get that done, it's all the same," he explains.

As for his new coach, he says he has known coach Chot Reyes even back when he was with Laguna Lakers for he used to be a consultant for the team. "Both Alfrancis Chua and Chot Reyes are great coaches and I love playing for both of them."

Superstardom

They say that basketball players reach their peak when they reach the age of 28. Rudy's consistent scoring indicates that this small forward is, to say the least, destined for basketball superstardom. Currently, he is one of Pop Cola's surest bet to bring them to the finals. Does the fame scare him, even just a little bit? "It's all good but scary because I don't want to get pressured and burned out at an early age," he says.

One of his fears, in fact, is that he might not do as well as he did in the last game. "But I know as long as I do what I do as well as I know it, then it's all good," Rudy says confidently.

Of course, I just had to ask three little questions before we wrapped up our interview.

Do you know how to speak Tagalog?

"*Konti lang.*" (He says with a smile, looking a bit embarrassed)

How do your teammates talk to you on the court during a game?

"They speak to me in English. We don't really say much on the court anyway. Just basically, 'Get over here! I need help!'"

You mentioned that you love movies, have you seen "Booba"?

"Yup, I have, but I didn't understand half of it." (Scratches his head and grins)

E-mail the author at jules26@gurlmail.com

points of view

Point 0.4 mm
Student's Angle

Point 0.5 mm
Engineer's Perspective

Point 0.7 mm
Executive's Viewpoint

Be seen with the *Sipa* Gel edge:

- Quick-drying ink from Japan
- Leak-proof tip from Switzerland
- Waterproof
- Smooth writing performance
- Excellent cap off time
- Refillable

Sipa®
Tinna Gel
Quality Need
Not be Expensive.

Available at all SM Department Stores & National Bookstore outlets

Invasion of rookies at Formula One

BY TAMMY DAVID
2bU! Correspondent

FINALLY, the long wait is over. The Formula One championship started last Sunday with the Australian Grand Prix with world champion Michael Schumacher taking the top of the podium again and the tragic death of one track marshal again (God rest his soul). As usual, the race was adrenaline-pumping with the overtakes and the crashes. I can't wait for the next races and of course, the very young and hot drivers this season.

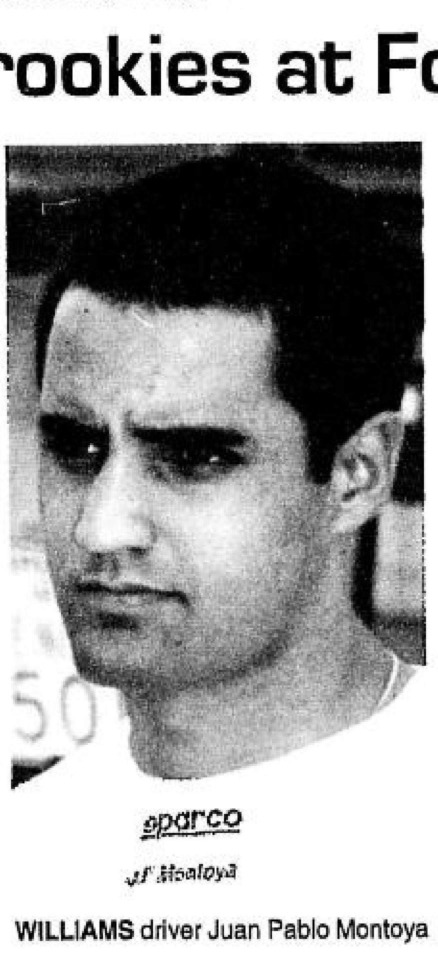
Last season, the F1 world was blown away with then 20-year-old Brit Jenson Button who made impressive eight points in his debut season. With Button paving the way for the rookies, there are about five new drivers who are below 25 years old. Here are four fresh drivers to look forward to besides the never-ending Scuderia Ferrari-Mclaren Mercedes war.

New kids

Coming from the land of Ayrton Senna, 22-year-old Enrique Bernoldi takes Pedro dela Rosa's seat as Arrows' second driver. He grew up watching performances of Brazilian world champions Senna and Nelson Piquet and obviously was bitten by the racing bug at an early age. Like the usual pre-Formula One cycle, he started with Kart and he was in F3000 with the Red Bull junior team and a testing role in Sauber before joining F1.

The baby of the bunch, 19-year-old Fernando Alonso has limited experience of single-seater racing but this Spaniard definitely caught the eye of the F1 scouts when he finished fourth in the International Formula 3000 last year.

He follows the footsteps of Button as an inexperienced driver to enter F1. He will be with the not-so great Minardi this season for his "warm up" before he transfers to Boss Flavio Briatore's domain, Benetton.


WILLIAMS driver Juan Pablo Montoya

21-YEAR-OLD Kimi Raikkonen: Will this baby-faced Finn be the next Mika Hakkinen?

The baby-faced and most controversial driver, 21-year-old Kimi Raikkonen caused quite a stir in the F1 world when the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) granted his Superlicence last December only having competed in 23 car races throughout his career.

The young Finn is a genius in karting and won the Formula Renault championship last year but still he was criticized for being inexperienced. But as the youngest of the top six in last Sunday's race, let's hope criticisms will turn into praises in no time.

Former Williams test driver and 1999 CART FedEX Series champion, Colombian Juan Pablo Montoya made it as early as last year with his signing with Williams. Thanks to the less impressive results of double CART champion and former F1 driver Alex Zanardi, JPM will be watched closely, especially the Button Fans, for any flaw.

But JPM might be the missing piece to BMW Williams' puzzle to a world title since he is known for his aggressive style and for being quick. Ralf Schumacher watch out.

You may visit the sites of the following players:
Enrique Bernoldi: www.enriquebernoldi. com.br
Fernando Alonso: www.fernandoalonso.com
Kimi Raikkonen: www.kimiraikkonen.com
Juan Pablo Montoya: www.jpmontoya.com

THE POWER TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU CHOOSE.

SMART zed™

HAVE YOUR FAVORITE CAPCOM CHARACTERS BURSTING OUT OF YOUR SMART CELFONE!

Street Fighter III
NEW GENERATION
© CAPCOM All Rights Reserved

JUST SOME OF THE POPULAR LOGOS EXCLUSIVE TO SMART.

How to Download:

1. Key in **LOGOSEARCH CAPCOM** and send to **233** to get a list of available CAPCOM logos.
2. Key in **LOGO <name>** and send to **233** to download your preferred operator logo.
3. Key in **GRPLOGO <name>** and send to **233** to download your preferred group graphic icon.
4. Select "Options" and save your SMART CAPCOM logo.

CAPCOM®

WOLFPAC
WOLFPAC Communications, Incorporated

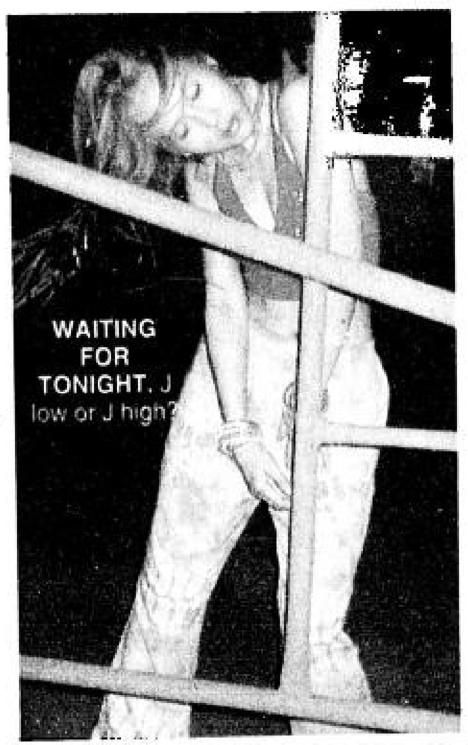
Operator logos are supported by the following Nokia handsets:
3210, 3310, 6150, 6210, 6250, 7110, 8210, 8250 and 8850.
Group graphic icons are available on the following Nokia handsets: 6150, 6210, 7110, 8210, 8250, and 8850.

SMART zed services are available through:

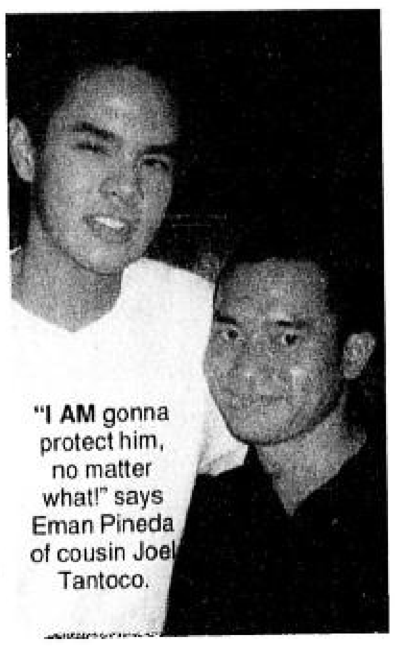
SMART GOLD GSM

SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

For more info, visit www.smart.com.ph


WAITING FOR TONIGHT. J low or J high?

SWEET ENDINGS. Coosome couple Richie and Faith Amigo-Lavarro

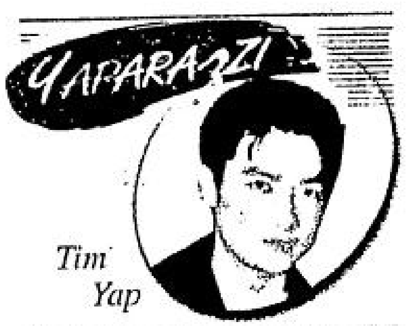

"I AM gonna protect him, no matter what!" says Eman Pineda of cousin Joel Tantoco.

A POTENT mix of Raj Moreno and Tina Montinola

PARTYPHILE goes military marching.

HEADTURNERS Wendy Puyat and Derek Ramsey

Make love, not war



Tim Yap

"WE dance to celebrate! This was the way it was done back then, this is the way we'll do it now." So said a teeny-bopper **Kevin Bacon** in the early '80s cult hit "Footloose," as he defended before an elderly religious rightist council their right to hold a party, despite talk of sex, drugs and riots prevalent in the scene.

The past week has been a roller-coaster ride of DJ events, bar anniversaries and product launches all aimed at the hip, young clubber (HYP) in all of us. Midweek's much-awaited peak came when **DJ Timo Maas** held fort at 78 Orange for a feisty, funky four-hour set as part of his Renaissance World Tour 2001.

Hipsters rejoiced upon hearing Maas' arrival in Manila. And they have reason to—this guy is the music world's next big thing, the new guard in DJ land, if we are to believe what the music magazines say (even DJ superstar **Paul Oakenfold** puts him as most promising). When I was in Ibiza, Spain last summer, critics were all praises for this German music meister who took the party island by storm with his deep and dark progressive trance.

DJ demimondes

At a dinner hosted by event sponsor Smirnoff Mule, Timo was in his element, alongside girlfriend of four years **Nicole**, as he talked about his records, being a DJ, his thoughts on Napster and other stuff concerning the scene.

That night, DJ demimondes were fully present at the pumping club—hipsters, dance aficionados and glamour pusses all cramped in the central area, hands up in the air, all seemingly lost in the DJ's beat.

Despite the cramped floor, mixed reactions followed his set. Some said it was too deep, other people didn't like his music. Me, I had a great time. I realize that it is important to be there when a DJ starts his set, to be able to catch the story from beginning to end, to be able to ride the ride. Coming in the middle or at the end of a DJ's set is similar to missing the first part of a movie or arriving at a play after intermission. Maas' set was, for a lack of a better term, a great roller-coaster ride.

Ultimate party land

Weekend saw the final night of Muletopia at Mas Y Mas. A giant stage was set up in the open-air Intramuros area where giant screens and gobo lights filled the venue. Satellite bars serving Mule were all over, as costumed hipsters engaged in style debauchery—"refresh in style," as the brand's seductive slogan suggests.

Partyphiles were treated to a DJ parade of elements—fire, water, air and copper—symbolized by the alternating sounds of DJs **Angelo Villanueva, Erwin Edralin, Cyril Santos** and **Elmer Dado**. The Hotlegs gyrated with all their souls to the night's rhythm.

Past, past midnight, the nocturnalites moved to Mas Y Mas' inner chamber, where a winner of Muletopia's trip to Ibiza was going to be announced. After some more fanfare, a name was called. **Lee Armas**, a lucky lassie clad in a sexy see-through black number, shrieked with excitement—Smirnoff Mule will be taking her to the ultimate fantasy party land!

Fight club

After the affair, I jumped to Makati where other events were taking place. I hopped from one bar to another, and on my final stop, there seemed to be some sort of a ruckus happening outside one hip hangout, with a crowd starting to gather in anticipation of what was to happen.

"I think there's going to be a fight," said my friend **Miguel** as he looked at the guys that were starting to give each other "the look." "Hey, don't provoke them!" screamed **Ana** as she pulled a friend from the throng of clubbers. "Come on, just fight!" howled another in exasperated humor as she passed by the other venue.

Heads became hotter by the second. All of a sudden, the attention shifted to the other side when somebody shouted, "Hey, look, there's another fight here!" It seemed like a bad tennis match as people who were caught in between didn't know where to look.

Then, a man rushed out of the club, hands full of blood, covering his ears. Simultaneously, a whodunit goose chase followed. People running to and fro, asking and explaining each and individual situation. "Some guy got hit by a bottle," explains a bystander whose hands were smeared by his friend's blood.

What for?

"Bad trip!" I overheard one disgruntled partyphile saying while exiting from the club's premises. Cooler heads intervened in the first ruckus, so I don't think that pushed through, despite the prodding of the other camp to settle differences "squarely."

Incidents like these happen not only in clubs and bars, but also in schools and other places where an excess of ego exists. If anything, brawls, screaming matches and punching fits reflect weakness, not strength; insecurity and not pride. To them fight mongers, I say, "What for?"

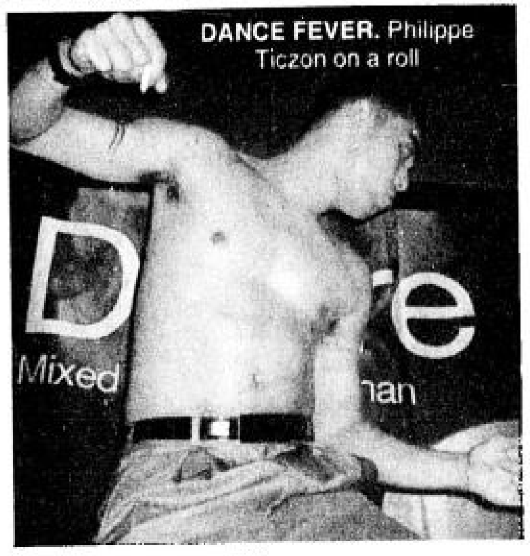
Bar and restaurant owners should also be wary. We live in a "peace and love" generation, it is too passé to see this happening these days. This negative vibe drives people away. Just look at the venues closing or soon to close—they are most likely also the ones most frequented by "untoward" incidents.

Whatever it is, when you are struck in the heat of the moment, just take a deep breath and tell yourself, "It's not worth all the trouble."

Ironically, it was the Makati mobile cops who passed by the scene of the altercation who gave the best advice. In heavily accented Tagalog, they quipped in jest to the people in the streets, "*Kaya nga andyan yan, para magkasiyahan kayo, magsayawan na lang kayo* (That's why the clubs are there, for you to enjoy. Why not just dance)!"

I couldn't agree more.

Believe it or not, the cops gave us partyphiles the best piece of advice—that clubs are there for fun, not fighting


DANCE FEVER. Philippe Ticzon on a roll

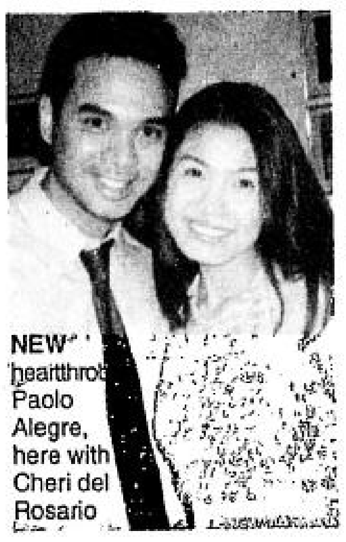
ISHQ-CUTE! Candy Reyes in a floral mood

DENIM diva Khaki strikes a pose.

DISCO darling Charmaine says, "Go!"

"**THIS** is my girl" says DJ Timo Maas of girlfriend Nicole.

PHOTOS BY TIM YAP


NEW heartthrob Paolo Alegre, here with Cheri del Rosario

SOLO spot fo Celine Garcia

GOLDEN boy Glenn Enriquez. Watch out for him.

GENTLE giant Leon Araneta inside the club

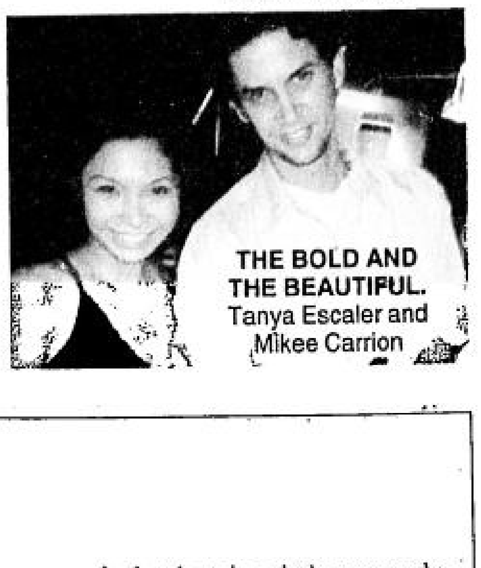
CHEERS, PAL! Top DJ Elmer Dado

LOVERS LANE. Rovilson Fernandez and Shaan Bermudez

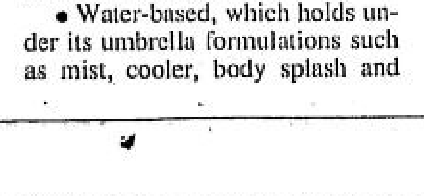
FRESH from New York is Mary Joy de Leon, here with Robby Carmona.

CREATIVE juices from Joyce Fernandez and Betsy Medalla.

THE VIBE. Marjorie Alquizalas and Steve Mills


THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL. Tanya Escaler and Mikee Carrion

The right way to shave



Kinny Salas

I AM already using a razor with triple blades for my underarms, but even if the blade is new and I use shaving gel, I still find some minor stubble. I don't like waxing as you have to wait a certain length before I can take it all off, and plucking gives me eye strain. Can you suggest something?

STUBBLY

The lesson we all learned about shaving is that doing so opposite hair growth will give us the closest and smoothest shave. One thing I noticed we weren't told is even in the same area, hair grows in different directions. That explains the stubble still found.

My new and effective method is letting the shaving gel soak longer and shaving in four directions on the entire underarm area. Up and down, down and up, left to right and right to left. That would swipe them all.

Tip: Go back to using a single or double blade razor that you can change after every four to five uses to ensure sharpness. A three-blade razor may scrape off too much skin and has a higher risk of cutting you.

* * *

What is the best type of perfume? I use baby cologne for office and casual days, but on weekends and special occasions I want more impact. Problem is, there are so many choices to choose from. I know the scent that suits me but there are so many formulas listed. These are not cheap so I want my money's worth. What's the difference between splash, eau de toilette, perfume, silicone, oil spray, whatever, etc.?

DAZED AND CONFUSED

There has been a bigger selection since the '80s when perfume meant something you could smell 4 ft away. In the '90s, they formulated those that were milder and subtle for allergic noses, but these didn't last very long for other people. Now the fragrances are divided into three main groups:

- Water-based, which holds under its umbrella formulations such as mist, cooler, body splash and refresher. Description: Very light and fleeting, which lasts less than two hours. Detectable only at close range, like not farther than 12" away. They tend to be simple, one-note scents. Example: Gucci Envy, Bulgari, Escada Lily Chic.
- Oil-based, a.k.a. cologne, eau de parfum. Description: It lasts up to six hours and can be detected 18" away or more. Complex with top, middle and bottom notes that evolve during the day. Examples: Calvin Klein Contradiction, Prescriptives Calyx, YSL, In Love Again, Cartier So Pretty.
- Silicone-based, a.k.a. dry oil spray, massage oil spray, dry body oil. Description: The longest lasting of the three groups. The type you can smell on you till the next morning. Will linger for eight hours. It is moisturizing but one drawback is that it stains clothes so apply on skin only. Generally the most expensive. Examples: Jean Paul Gaultier Skin Softening oil spray and Curve for Women Massage oil spray.

* * *

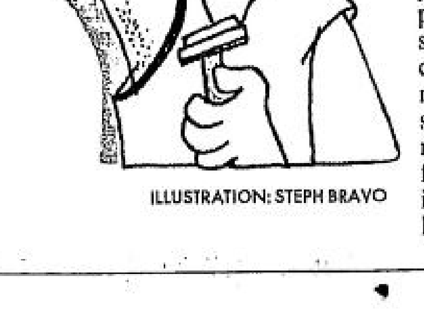


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

My nails are hard to grow as they are so brittle. After a certain length they chip, break or start peeling. What do I do strengthen it?

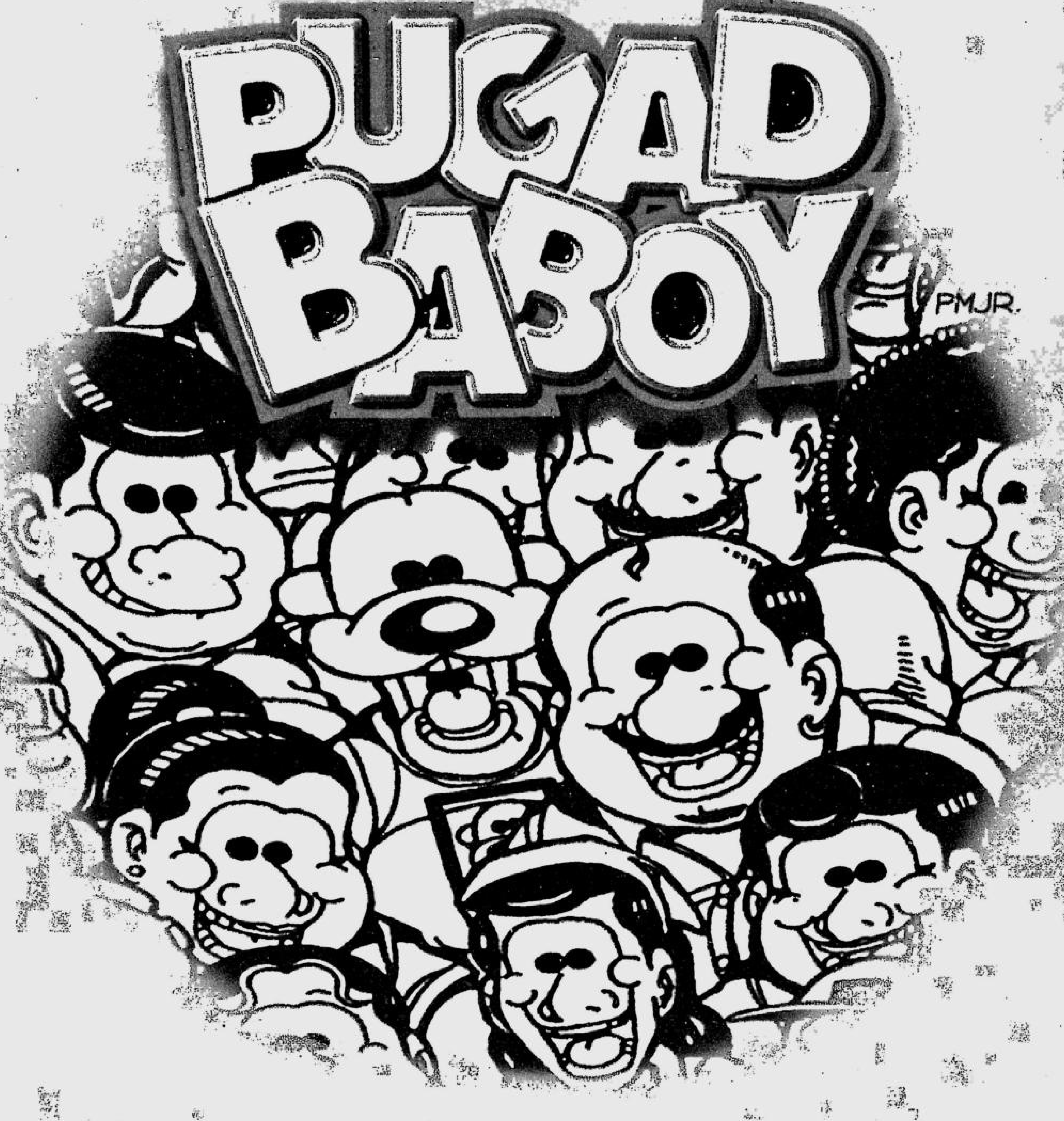
ANTOINETTE

There are countless hand lotions in the market for this purpose, but my mom taught me this particular method which is fail safe. She punctures a Vitamin E capsule and rubs the oil on her nails and into the cuticle area. It seems that like the skin, lack of moisture causes nails to become fragile and more prone to breaking. I now no longer have a problem growing my nails.

THE POWER TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU CHOOSE.

SMART zed™

SEND OVER A HUNDRED HILARIOUS PUGAD BABOY E-CARDS!



JUST SOME OF THE POPULAR GRAPHICS EXCLUSIVE TO SMART.

How to download:

To search for an e-card:

1. Key in **ECARDMENU** and send to **240** to receive a list of available categories.
2. To get a list of the available designs in your chosen category, key in **ECARDSEARCH** followed by your chosen category. For example, **ECARDSEARCH GVAL** and send to **240**.
3. To choose a design, get its corresponding e-card code. Key in **ECARDCODES** and the keyword of your design. For example, **ECARDCODES VPUGAD**. Send to **240**.

To download an e-card:

1. Compose an e-card by keying in **ECARD <e-card code>** for example **ECARD E105** then send to **240**.
2. After downloading the e-card, save it on your celfone. You may now forward the e-card as it is or edit it before sending to any GSM subscriber who is using any of the Nokia handsets that support this service.

To send an e-card:

1. Key-in **SENDCARD <e-card code> <mobile number>** and send to **240**.
For example, **SENDECARD E105 09192201422** and send to **240**.

To receive more e-card info:

1. Key in **ECARDHELP** and send to **240**.

In partnership with
PERSONALIZED GREETINGS
PERSONALIZED GREETINGS INC.
Personalized Greetings is the exclusive licensee for Pugad Baboy personalized electronic greeting cards and invitations.

WOLFPAC
WOLFPAC Communications, Incorporated

e-card graphics are supported by the following Nokia handsets: 3210, 3310, 6210, 6250, 8210, 8250 and 8850.

SMART zed services are available through:

SMART GOLD GSM

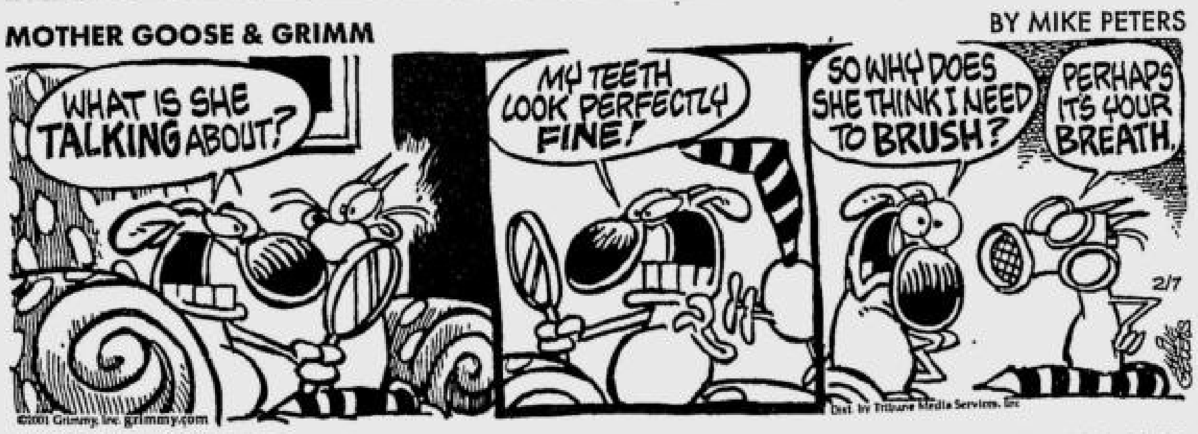
SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

For more info, visit www.smart.com.ph

COMIC Relief

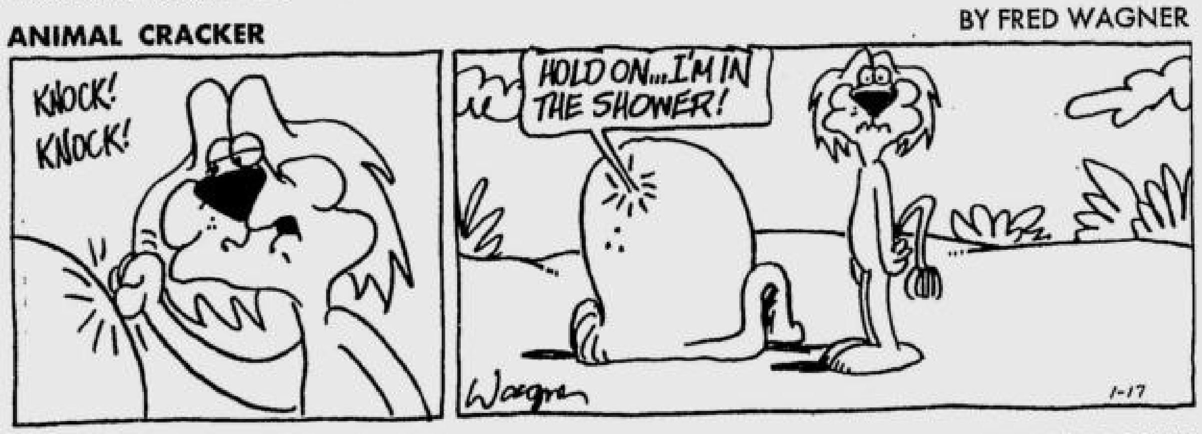
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT?
MY TEETH LOOK PERFECTLY FINE!
SO WHY DOES SHE THINK I NEED TO BRUSH?
PERHAPS IT'S YOUR BREATH.
2/7
©2001 Grimmy Inc. grimmy.com
Dist. by Tribune Media Services, Inc

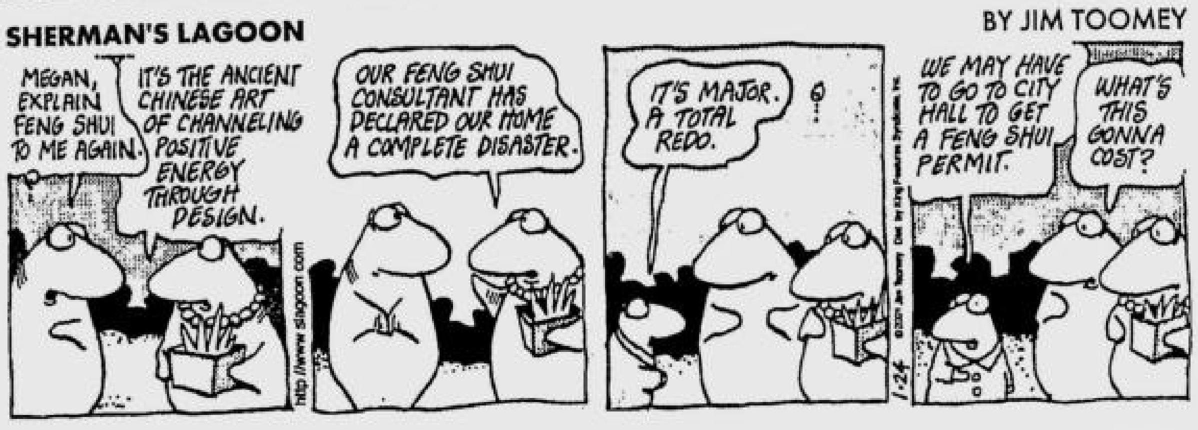
ANIMAL CRACKER

BY FRED WAGNER


KNOCK! KNOCK!
HOLD ON...I'M IN THE SHOWER!
Wagner
1-17

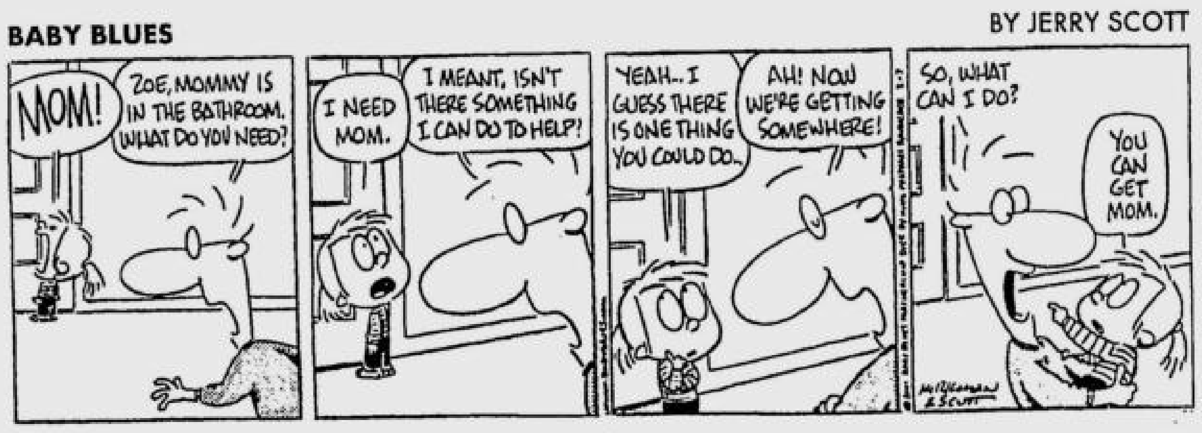
SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY


MEGAN, EXPLAIN FENG SHUI TO ME AGAIN.
IT'S THE ANCIENT CHINESE ART OF CHANNELING POSITIVE ENERGY THROUGH DESIGN.
OUR FENG SHUI CONSULTANT HAS DECLARED OUR HOME A COMPLETE DISASTER.
IT'S MAJOR. A TOTAL REDO.
WE MAY HAVE TO GO TO CITY HALL TO GET A FENG SHUI PERMIT.
WHAT'S THIS GONNA COST?
http://www.slagoon.com
1-24

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT


MOM!
ZOE, MOMMY IS IN THE BATHROOM. WHAT DO YOU NEED?
I NEED MOM.
I MEANT, ISN'T THERE SOMETHING I CAN DO TO HELP?
YEAH...I GUESS THERE IS ONE THING YOU COULD DO...
AH! NOW WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE!
SO, WHAT CAN I DO?
YOU CAN GET MOM.
KIRKMAN & SCOTT

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Willard Scott, Tammy Faye Bakker, Janet Guthrie, Taylor Dane, John Heard

Happy Birthday: Look before you leap. You always want to do all and be all, but this year you will have to be a little more specific about what you can and should do. You may feel an urgency to forge ahead, but without the proper groundwork, you may be disappointed in the outcome. Plan your actions carefully and you'll have no regrets or lost time. Your numbers: 15, 19, 23, 25, 28, 32

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't overspend on entertainment or luxury items. Difficulties with older individuals will make you angry. Put in extra time if you have fallen behind in your duties.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Coarse language in your home will not be acceptable. You will feel like getting away if the tension escalates. You are better off doing things with friends than with family.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Social activity with friends and relatives will be most successful. Get involved in children's activities. They will teach you far more than you imagined possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You will have a greater concern with financial matters. Use your creative awareness to come up with ideas that will bring you extra cash.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your dramatic approach to emotional matters may alienate you from the ones you love. Don't let others blame you for things you didn't do. Try to control your reactions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Deception involving in-laws or so-called friends may be somewhat upsetting today. You will do well if you concentrate on organizational tasks.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): New romantic partners are likely if you take the initiative at group functions. Make sure you check out their credentials before you become too attached. They aren't likely to be as they appear. Don't let others cost you dearly.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don't let your jealous nature get the better of you. Arguments with your partner will lead to estrangement. You need to be more tolerant when your mate wants to spend time with others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Someone you meet while traveling will intrigue you. Don't be afraid to make the first move. Regardless of how far this connection goes, it will be well worth your while.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Investments will not be clear-cut. Do research if you want to spare yourself a financial loss. You need to be careful not to take on too many responsibilities.

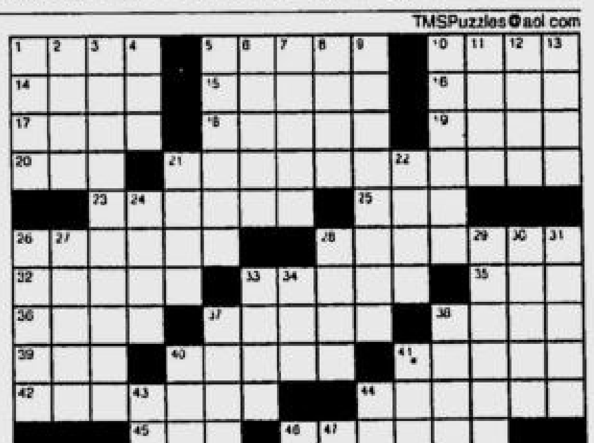
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't be depressed; get moving. It's time to make changes to eliminate the things that make you sad. Join groups that will promote new friendships.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't believe everything you hear at work. A co-worker may just be trying to upset the rest of you. Go to the source if you really want to find out what's going on.

Birthday Baby: You have the looks, the pizzazz and the charm to take you to the top if you put in the effort. Your creative imagination will enable you to envision what you want out of life. See it, believe it, become it.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com


1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63

By Dorothy B. Martin
Highland Park, MI

1/22/01

ACROSS
1 Oxen connection
5 Talked
10 Fragrant ointment
14 Seed coat
15 Fowl choice
16 Gobi's continent
17 Young girl
18 Go-between
19 Split
20 Printer's spaces
21 Citrus box
23 Experts
25 Born in Bordeaux
26 Ejected forcefully
28 Brandy cocktail
32 "Blue Voyage" poet
33 Monopoly piece
35 Grand __ Opry
36 Garden legumes
37 Skeleton
38 Ye __ Shoppe
39 6 mos. from Apr.
40 Top-40 deejay Casey
41 Brought to closure
42 Put back up
44 Blood vessel
45 Peeve
46 Pay a visit to
48 Show
52 Musician's booking
55 Head for the wings
56 French river
57 Wimbledon winner of 1977
58 Fencing tool
59 Knight's outfit
60 James Bond's alma mater
61 "On Golden __"
62 Hammer heads
63 Orion feature

DOWN
1 Noted drama school
2 Algerian port
3 Cole Porter musical
4 Golfer Ernie
5 Alarmed
6 Heathen
7 Unwraps
8 "King __"
9 International understandings
10 Lacking vegetation
11 Cruising
12 Fluff
13 Created
21 Kitchen appliance
22 Top off four walls
24 Inspires with reverence
26 Quality of taste
27 Part
28 Pipe part
29 California strait discovered by Drake
30 Church leader
31 Thin-voiced
33 Multitude
34 Single
37 Demonstrate effusive goodwill
38 Not fooled by
40 "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" guy
41 Perry's penner
43 Rampaged
44 Changes
46 Lawbreaking
47 Moses' brother
48 Profound
49 Montreal player
50 Aspect
51 Ripped
53 Graven image
54 Chap
57 Spider creation

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

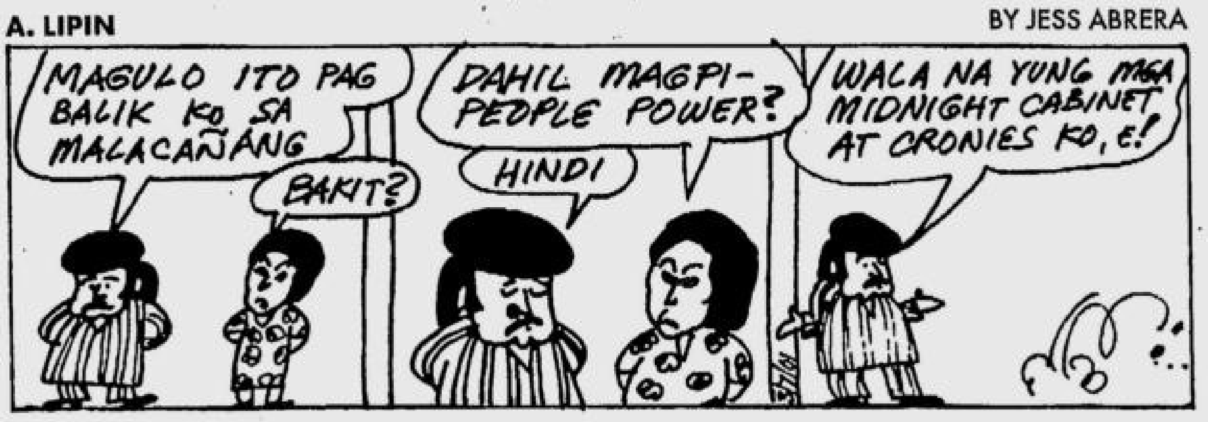
P	E	N	P	A	L	■	F	L	A	T	W	A	R	E
A	P	O	L	L	O	■	R	A	T	H	O	L	E	S
L	I	N	E	U	P	■	E	N	H	A	N	C	E	S
A	S	S	A	M	■	B	E	D	E	W	■	O	D	E
D	O	T	■	■	S	U	D	A	N	■	T	H	I	N
I	D	O	L	A	T	R	O	U	S	■	R	O	T	C
N	E	P	O	T	I	S	M	■	■	F	A	L	S	E
■	■	■	W	O	R	T	■	C	L	A	N	■	■	■
S	T	E	E	P	■	■	C	H	O	I	C	E	S	T
E	R	R	S	■	A	B	H	O	R	R	E	N	C	E
R	O	O	T	■	F	L	A	R	E	■	■	M	E	T
R	O	D	■	D	R	U	I	D	■	S	T	A	P	H
A	P	I	A	R	I	E	S	■	C	H	A	S	T	E
T	E	N	T	A	C	L	E	■	P	U	R	S	E	R
E	D	G	E	W	A	Y	S	■	O	T	T	E	R	S

(C)2001 Tribune Media Services, Inc.
All rights reserved.

1/22/01

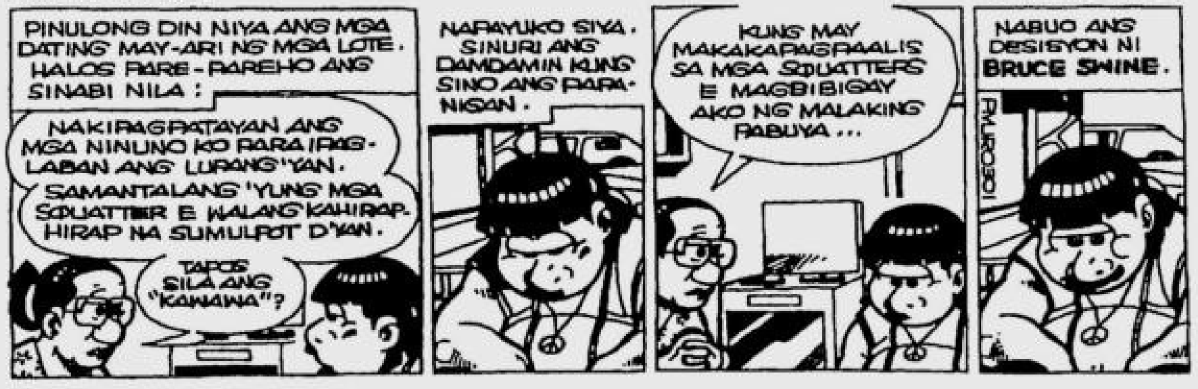
A. LIPIN

BY JESS ABRERA


MAGULO ITO PAG BALIK KO SA MALACAÑANG
BAKIT?
DAHIL MAGPI-PEOPLE POWER?
HINDI
WALA NA YUNG MGA MIDNIGHT CABINET AT CRONIES KO, E!

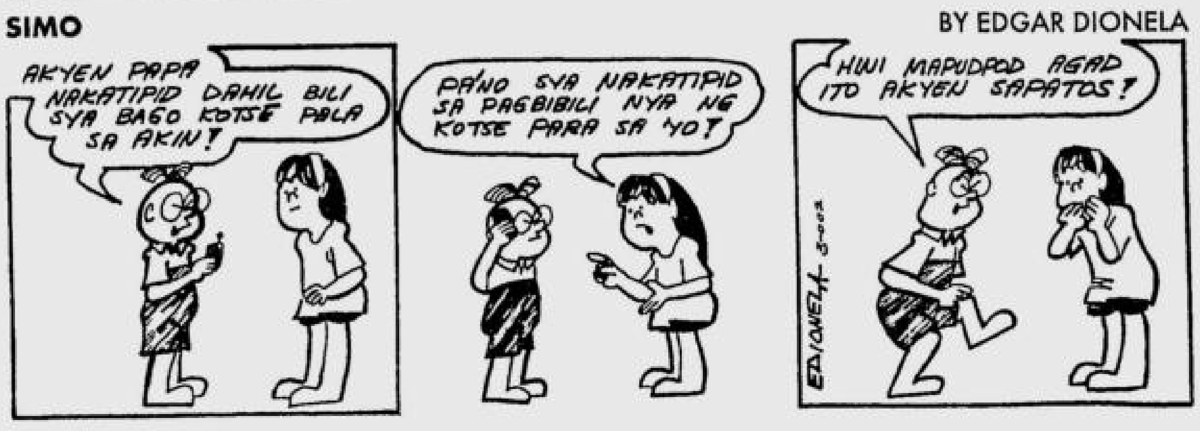
PUGAD BABOY

BY P.M. JUNIOR


PINULONG DIN NIYA ANG MGA DATING MAY-ARI NG MGA LOTE. HALOS PARE-PAREHO ANG SINABI NILA:
NAKIPAGPATAYAN ANG MGA NINUNO KO PARA IPAGLABAN ANG LUPANG 'YAN.
SAMANTALANG 'YUNG MGA SQUATTER E WALANG KAHIRAP-HIRAP NA SUMULPOT D'YAN.
TAPOS SILA ANG "KAWAWA"?
NAPAYUKO SIYA. SINURI ANG DAMDAMIN KUNG SINO ANG PAPANIGAN.
KUNG MAY MAKAKAPAGPAALIS SA MGA SQUATTERS E MAGBIBIGAY AKO NG MALAKING PABUYA...
NABUO ANG DESISYON NI BRUCE SWINE.
PMJR0301

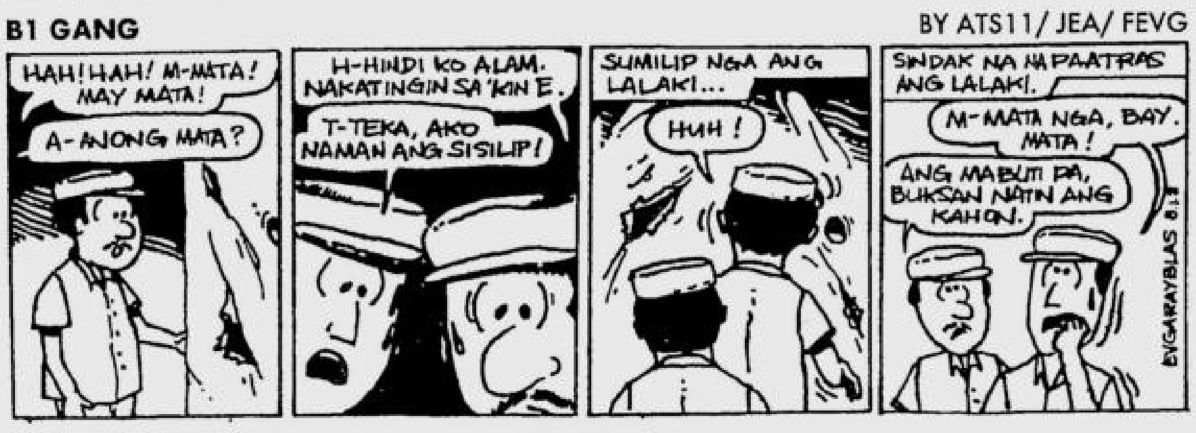
SIMO

BY EDGAR DIONELA


AKYEN PAPA NAKATIPID DAHIL BILI SYA BAGO KOTSE PALA SA AKIN!
PA'NO SYA NAKATIPID SA PAGBIBILI NYA NG KOTSE PARA SA 'YO?
HIWI MAPUDPOD AGAD ITO AKYEN SAPATOS!
EDIONELA

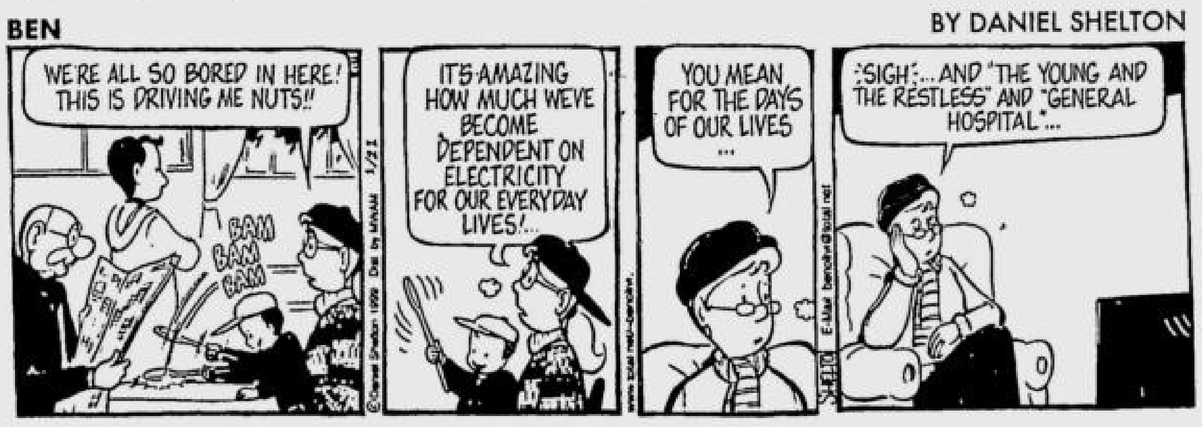
B1 GANG

BY ATS11/ JEA/ FEVG


HAH! HAH! M-MATA! MAY MATA!
A-ANONG MATA?
H-HINDI KO ALAM. NAKATINGIN SA 'KIN E.
T-TEKA, AKO NAMAN ANG SISILIP!
SUMILIP NGA ANG LALAKI...
HUH!
SINDAK NA NAPAATRAS ANG LALAKI.
M-MATA NGA, BAY. MATA!
ANG MABUTI PA, BUKSAN NATIN ANG KAHON.
EVGARAYBLAS

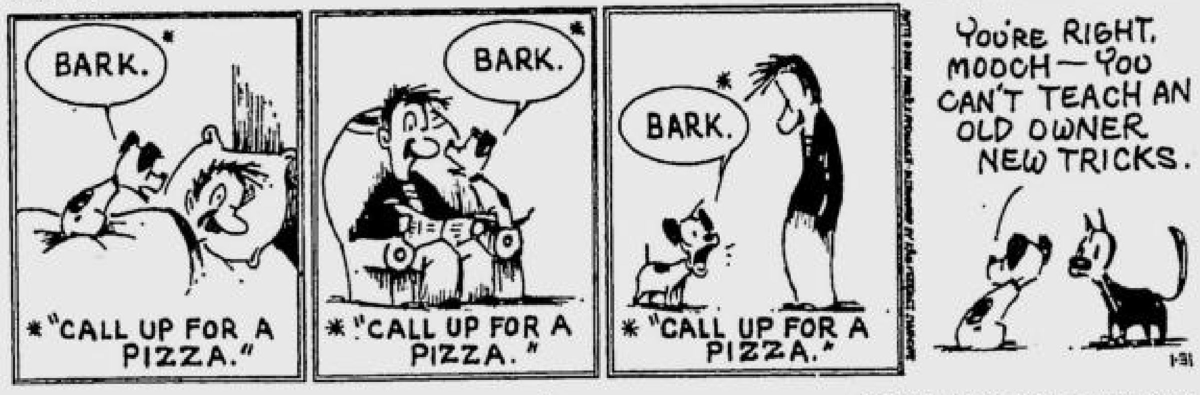
BEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON


WE'RE ALL SO BORED IN HERE! THIS IS DRIVING ME NUTS!!
BAM BAM BAM
IT'S AMAZING HOW MUCH WE'VE BECOME DEPENDENT ON ELECTRICITY FOR OUR EVERYDAY LIVES!...
YOU MEAN FOR THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES ...
:SIGH:...AND "THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS" AND "GENERAL HOSPITAL"...
1/21

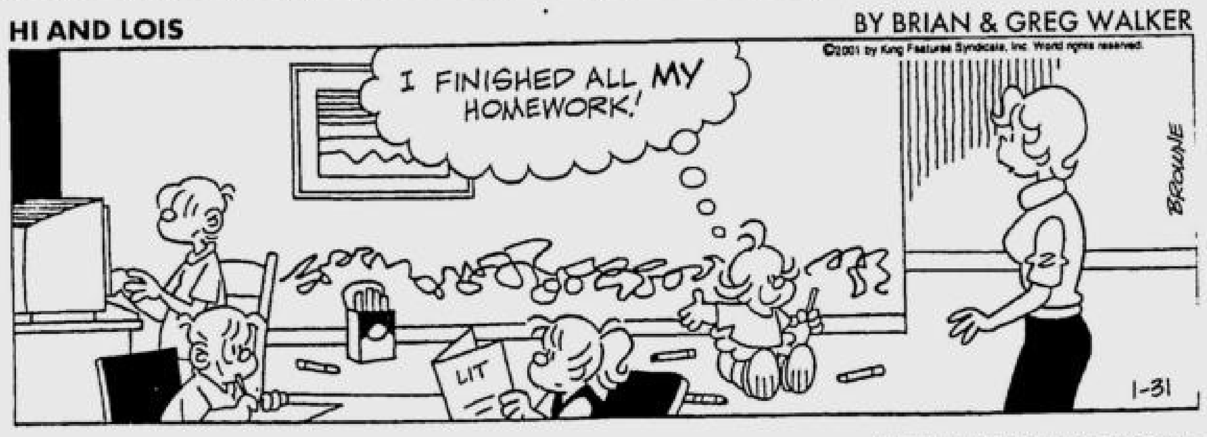
MUTTS

BY PATRICK McDONNELL


BARK.
* "CALL UP FOR A PIZZA."
BARK.
* "CALL UP FOR A PIZZA."
BARK.
* "CALL UP FOR A PIZZA."
YOU'RE RIGHT, MOOCH — YOU CAN'T TEACH AN OLD OWNER NEW TRICKS.
1-31

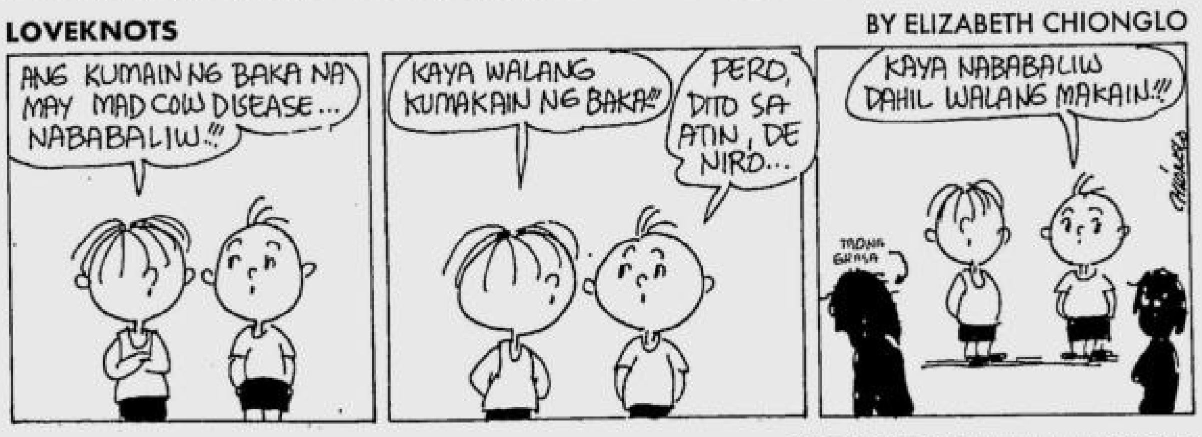
HI AND LOIS

BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


©2001 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
I FINISHED ALL MY HOMEWORK!
LIT
BROWNE
1-31

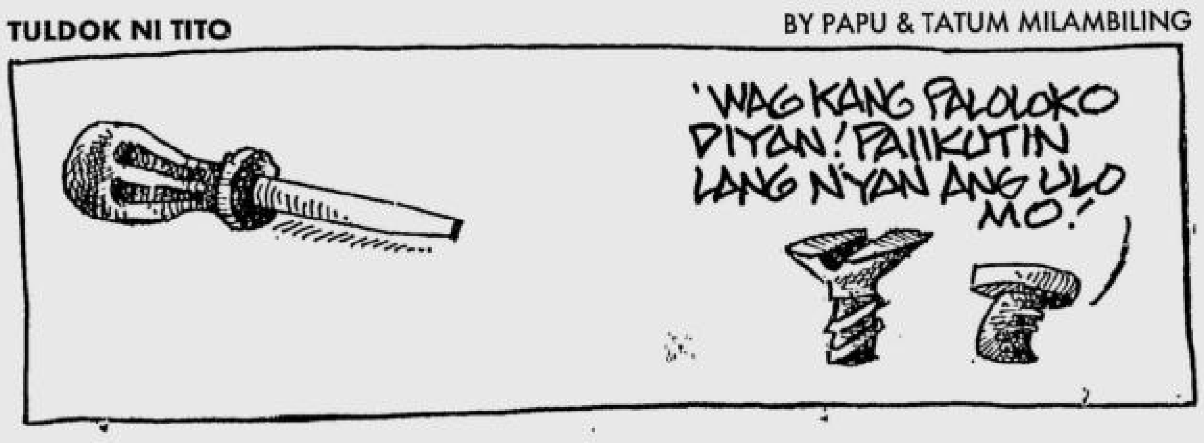
LOVEKNOTS

BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


ANG KUMAIN NG BAKA NA MAY MAD COW DISEASE... NABABALIW!!!
KAYA WALANG KUMAKAIN NG BAKA!!!
PERO, DITO SA ATIN, DE NIRO...
KAYA NABABALIW DAHIL WALANG MAKAIN!!!
TAONG GRASA

TULDOK NI TITO

BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


'WAG KANG PALOLOKO DIYAN! PAIIKUTIN LANG N'YAN ANG ULO MO!

Close but no cigar

By Franco Cruz Mabanta
2bU! Correspondent

SPORTS is about winning.

The thrill of competition, the feeling of giving it your all, the pure and unmitigated excitement of merely playing the game, these are all secondary to victory in itself. Having your hand raised after a vicious knockout blow, cutting the net off of the hoop, being given the Stanley Cup—these are the things athletes live and die for. They scratch, sweat and bleed to win. To know they are the best there is. To know they wanted it the most and strove the hardest to get to the top. To know they fully embellished the potential God bestowed upon them.

What we know is the fact that great athletes—the truly great ones—play to win and will be satisfied with nothing else. Bragging rights, unconditional glory, *life lived*, winning—no difference at all. Because, as Sir Sean Connery stated himself, "Oh, your best? Losers always whine about doing their best; winners go home and f*** the prom queen."

The all-powerful entity known as The Media elevates these champions and places them on a celestial pedestal to be seen by all. They are venerated and cherished like the gods of ancient Greece. "Like lords, they are worshipped" and, like Lords, they cast a dark shadow on their fallen victim such that they become forgotten, and lost. This is a very common tale in sports. In fact, it is a necessity.

There has to be a loser.

Somebody has to come in second best.

There has to be somebody to feel the rupturing pain of coming close and falling short. Charles Barkley knows how this pain feels—reaching the NBA Finals in 1993, then succumbing to the wrath of Michael Jordan and the Bulls, and eventually retiring without a championship.

Even for us, the spirited members of GenX, the sting of second place is quite often. As young and inexperienced as we are, the steely determination emanating from our souls is breathtaking. Our passion to win can pierce a hole straight through a concrete wall.

You watch a championship varsity soccer game one afternoon and wait for the referee to blow his final whistle and signal the game's end, and what do you see? One team jumping in the air, hugging each other, a multitude of high fives, and incomparable happiness that could only come from youths. And then you see another team down with their backs on the grass, teary-eyed and heartbroken.

You witness the annual Johnson & Johnson cheerleading competition and see dozens of schools dance their hearts away with pure excitement. In the end, you see one squad with their smiles even bigger than when they were dancing on court, the rest with their heads hanging, second best in tears.

That is the price athletes like us have to pay. When you play sports, you play to win. When you play to win, you create a thirst so passionate that it drives you to your knees. When you possess this thirst, the feeling of triumph—the quenching—is extraordinary; the bliss is multiplied a thousand times over. But when you possess the thirst, *and you lose*, the pain is devastating. Especially when you come close.

To athletes, second best is the plague, the inferno, the substantial evidence that proves you fell short, that you were not good enough. Yet, despite that, we must remember that second best is not the end. It is only the beginning for you to get better. And when you get better, there is nowhere else to go from second best.

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

Stylish and rugged

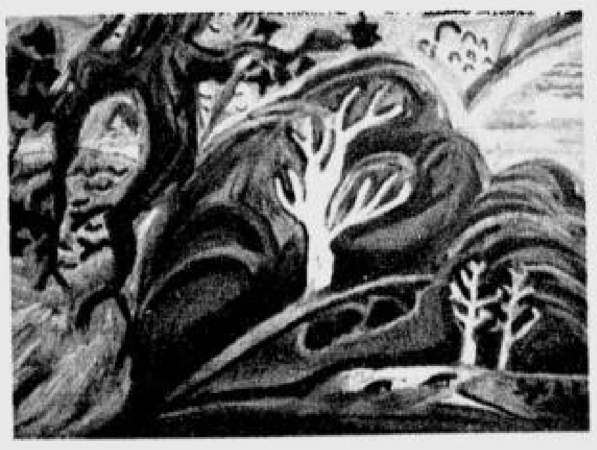
NAUTICA Footwear, a new line of shoes that echoes man's bond with nature and the rugged outdoors, brings back the classic work boot design in Tracker—a stylish update of the traditional shoes that works just as well as it looks.

The 6"-high work boot features a toe spring for comfort while walking, as well as padded ankle collar and tongue. For utmost flexibility and durability, a steel shank arch support has also been added.

Tracker also prides a unique waterproof construction through the seam sealed method, allowing it to withstand the challenges of nature.

Tough and rough as it may seem, Tracker is never short on style and distinct fashion appeal. With the trendy, young consumer in mind, Tracker was made to go with jeans and casual apparel, suggesting a relaxed and laid-back character.

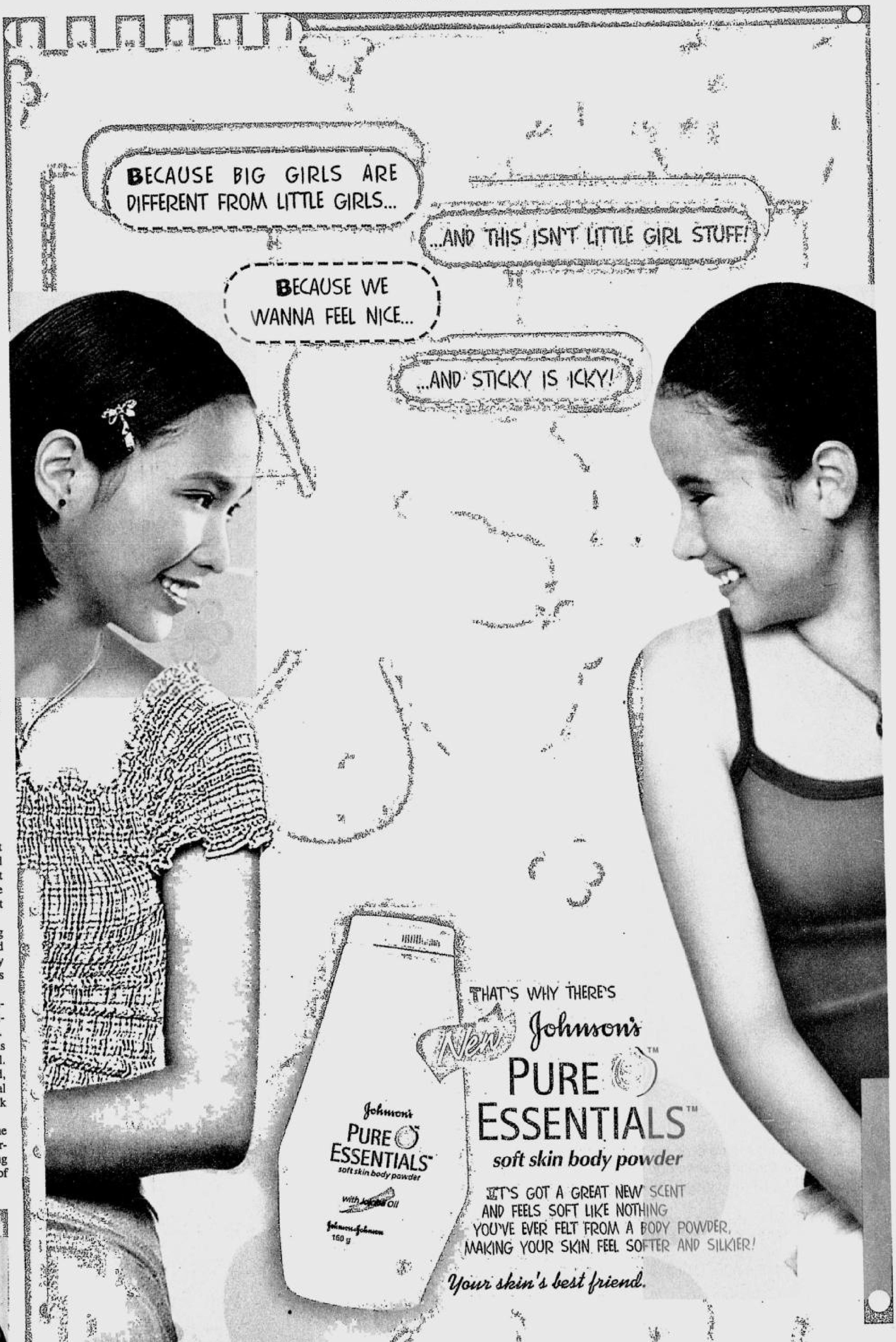
Tracker and the whole Nautica Footwear line are available at Planet Sports in Festival Supermall, Ayala Center Cebu, Karrivin Plaza Pasong Tamo, Rockwell Club and at selected stores of The Athlete's Foot and Olympic Village.


"EYE of Nature" by Ige Concepcion will be on view at the Chef N' Brewers, AIC Gold Tower, Ortigas Center on March 9.

ATTENTION: ALL EMPLOYERS

Employees whose monthly salaries range from P5,500 to P5,999.99 must contribute P68.75 a month. Those receiving P6,000 to P6,499.99 monthly must contribute P75.00 a month while those receiving P7,000 to P7,499.99 must contribute P87.50 per month. In all of these cases, the employer must provide an equivalent amount as counterpart.

Paalala mula sa inyong partner sa kalusugan
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION
City State Centre Building, 709 Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
Healthline 637-9999, website www.philhealth.gov.ph



BECAUSE BIG GIRLS ARE DIFFERENT FROM LITTLE GIRLS...
...AND THIS ISN'T LITTLE GIRL STUFF!
BECAUSE WE WANNA FEEL NICE...
...AND STICKY IS ICKY!
Johnson's PURE ESSENTIALS soft skin body powder with Jojoba Oil Johnson & Johnson 150 g
THAT'S WHY THERE'S
New Johnson's PURE ESSENTIALS™
soft skin body powder

IT'S GOT A GREAT NEW SCENT AND FEELS SOFT LIKE NOTHING YOU'VE EVER FELT FROM A BODY POWDER, MAKING YOUR SKIN FEEL SOFTER AND SILKIER!

Your skin's best friend.

Johnson & Johnson

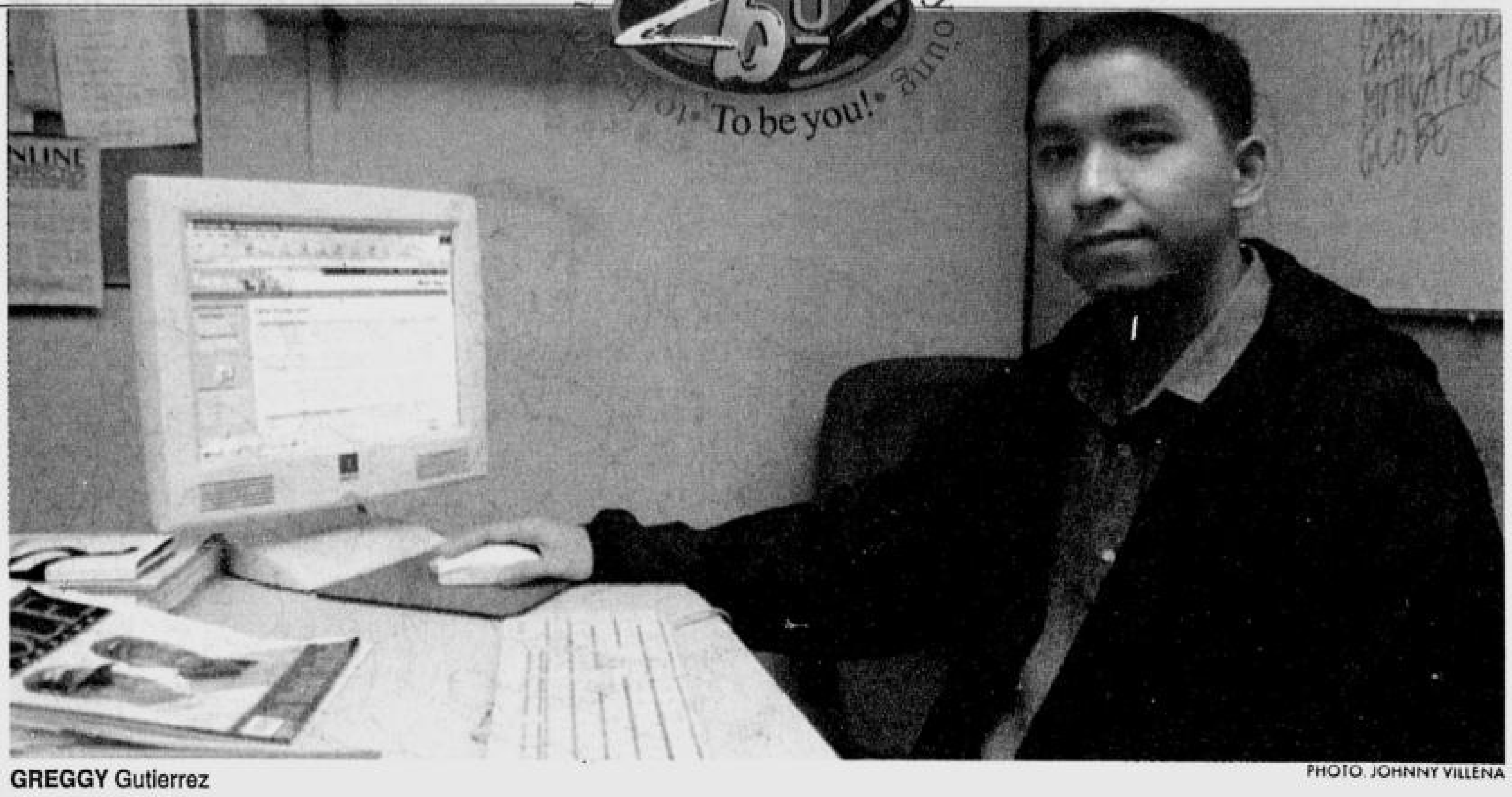
Golf on the Net

Take a swing and hit the putt on the World Wide Web through rpgolf.com

By Walter Ang

GREGGY Gutierrez started playing golf in 1992 when a cousin introduced him to the sport. "It's such a challenging sport. Almost a mind game," he enthuses. "Unlike other sports, it takes a lot of effort before you can get to the next level." Although he was feeling a little under the weather when this interview was conducted, his eyes lit up when his favorite activity was brought up.

With such passion for the sport, it's no wonder that this guy was one of those who launched rpgolf.com into the World Wide Web.



GREGGY Gutierrez

PHOTO: JOHNNY VILLENA

While taking a break from golf one time, he started chatting with Alfredo Masigan, the secretary general of the National Golf Association of the Philippines (NGAP). Before long, the idea of having a website on golf was born. A partnership with Masigan was forged and by March of last year, rpgolf.com was already online.

Aiming to be the country's leading golf portal, the site provides a straightforward lineup of features and sections.

Primarily, it enumerates the country's golf courses and provides relevant information for each course such as tee times and green fees. It even gives updates on weather reports for each course. It also contains links to the country's different golf associations and provides hosting for their sites as well.

Golfers can find out how they're faring amongst fellow enthusiasts by accessing the site's handicap listing of almost 30,000 golfers. Gutierrez provides an explanation to those unfamiliar with the sport. "The lower your number, the better you are. Tiger Woods would have a handicap of zero." This tall and lanky Interdiscipinary Studies graduate from Ateneo claims to have a handicap of 24, but quickly adds with a wink and a devilish smile, "Of course, I may be just giving you that number to make my handicap look better than it really is."

Going global

The site also dishes out updated golf news on a daily basis, which visitors to the site can also access through WAP on their cell phones. This is in addition to a daily dose of golf jokes, golf tips, golf rules and even golf clubs.

And speaking of golf clubs, there is also an online *tiangge* that offers, what else, golf paraphernalia. Rpgolf also has ties with Golf Asia Magazine and provides this print medium with a classified ads section of golfers who wish to buy, sell or trade golf apparatus.

The site has also involved itself in "offline," or real-life events. Rpgolf was one of the sponsors of last year's Philippine Open held at the Riviera Golf and Country Club in Silang, Cavite. For this year's National Open to be held at the Wack-Wack Golf Course, the site already has plans to provide its users real time scoring.

Accessible from a variety of media, Rpgolf can be reached by a global audience. With that in mind, the site also aspires for the Philippines to be Asia's next golfing mecca. "Thailand is currently Asia's golf mecca," Greggy relates, "but golfing here in the Philippines is so much cheaper compared to other Asian countries like Japan and Taiwan. This is why so many tourists come here just to play golf." With Rpgolf on the forefront, the sport is surely on its way to greener greens.

E-mail comments to waltzang@mail.com

Be noticed.

Stand out among even the fiercest competition with E-YellowPages.ph. EYP is the country's most comprehensive online business directory, with over 50,000 listings to date. It was created through the combined expertise of PLDT and Directories Philippines Corporation.

With EYP, you get accessed by customers the world over. What's more, you get exposed to your market round-the-clock. That's maximum business potential–all for free!

Be part of it now! Call 838-6110 or visit www.eyp.ph

eyp E-YellowPages.ph
PLDT convergence @ home
DPC Directories Philippines Corporation
The right Yellow Pages.

Pit shop around the corner

EVER wondered where you could get the new 2001 Ferrari cap or tickets to see Mika Hakkinen fly on the Malaysian Grand Prix? Definitely not from the *tiangge*. Race Gear pit shop is one of the very few Formula One specialty shops that offers everything from caps, shirts, stickers, car models, tickets and even Michael Schumacher umbrellas. Owned by Valerie Santos, a Mclaren Mercedes freak, the pit shop opened last year. It is located at 189A Katipunan Ave. QC.

2bU · to be young · to be you · To be you!
candy
www.candymag.com
Present
TEEN CHAT SERIES
Schedule this week:

Date	Topic
March 7	What are your Graduation Bash plans?
March 9	What to expect in college
March 12	What happens when friends go to different schools?

Log on to www.candymag.com/chat for details.

LIFESTYLE

Three of a kind

Women athletes can no longer be stopped from fulfilling their goals

BY PAOLO TRILLO

IN THE REALM of sports, female athletes are often downplayed and overlooked, leading to many disappointing careers and shattered dreams. But this cannot prevent three fantastic females from fulfilling their goals.

She may have been called wee little girl by seven-time karate champion and taebo creator Billy Blanks, but after enduring his two-year, 8-10-hour daily routine in training camp, Vanessa Garcia was one of the 20 left standing in a group of 60 wannabes. Taebo is actually an acronym for "total awareness of excellent body obedience." Some people call it power boxing, cardio kick, or even mistake it for kick-boxing. Vanessa calls it taebo as she is the only Filipina to have gone through hell and back during those days in Denver. Yes, she decided to go the full haul to have the privilege of being called a taebo instructor, the only acknowledged one that is, if you check it out over the web. Yup, this is one tough female who packs a mean punch. And as if that wasn't enough, the 28-year-old sports buff now teaches five classes daily while juggling a day job and a nightlife. She is steadfast on pursuing a career that teaches taebo and produces professional trainers.

Jasmine Strachan's driving force

After winning gold in the Carlos Palanca Junior Competition in taekwondo for four years in a row from 1998-2001, Jasmine Strachan was catapulted into running for an Olympic slot. Hard work, discipline and sheer guts had already led her to winning a bronze in Hong Kong (2000) and Vietnam (1998) in the Taekwondo Asian Championships, and she was not about to let her talent go to waste. Winning a silver in the Sydney Qualifying tournament last September 1999 solidified her place in a delegation of 20 athletes. And as the UST legal management graduate fell out of the medal race for the taekwondo featherweight division in the 2000 Sydney Olympics, millions of Filipinos were disheartened but not disappointed. Because the fire in her eyes was enough evidence that she did in fact give her all. Now, she looks forward to what lies ahead as a persevering athlete with a steady kick and a driving force.

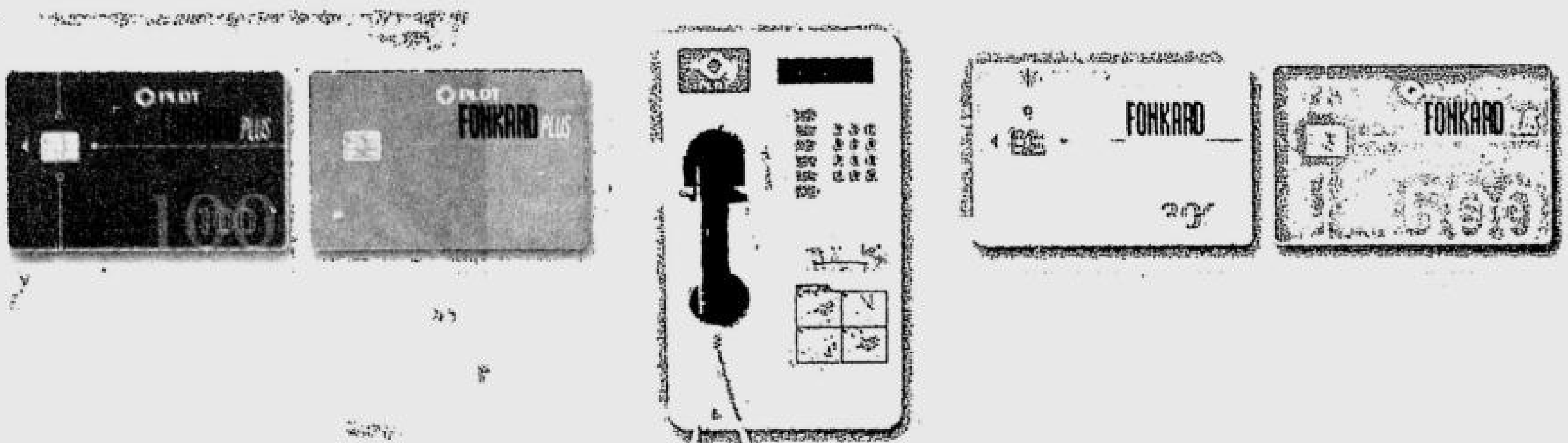
The passion of Candy Tanchi

Waking up at 5 a.m. six times a week to sweat it out in a gym shooting hoops is no easy task for any freshman college student. But Candy Tanchi has embraced the sport of basketball with a passion. One that would drive her to concentrate on her business management honors course and at the same time excel in the field of sports playing for the Ateneo women's basketball team. Having won the MVP award in the 1999 Far East Women's Basketball Tournament held in Japan, playing for Faith Academy back in high school, Candy rightfully claimed her spot as the top lady baller in a cast of 20 teams from all over Southeast Asia. Yet she remains humble and sweet-spoken. And even as people continue to stereotype lady players as tomboys, she remains focused on being herself and just having fun.

Three female athletes in three different disciplines with one common passion: to excel in sports. Three of a kind.

THREE/ p.E2

PANG TAWAG NA, PANG-TEXT PA!



Be one of over 5 million Filipinos who can experience
THE FIRST NATIONWIDE LANDLINE TEXTING SERVICE.

IT'S SO EASY TO TEXT
FROM A PLDT PAYPHONE:

❶ Go to any of over 8,800 card payphones nationwide, insert the Fonkard in the slot and wait for the dial tone.
❷ Just dial 135 and the 11-digit Smart GSM or Talk 'n Text cellphone number.
❸ Once you hear the voice prompt, press "talk".
❹ Press 1 to create your own message. Or press 2 to select a ready message.
❺ To create your own message: Compose your message much like texting from a cellphone.
❻ Or choose from a list of ready messages:
- Press 1 for *"Call home"*
- Press 2 for *"Call me at the office"*
- Press 3 for *"Have a good day"*
- Press 4 for *"I love you"*
- Press 5 for *"Happy Birthday"*

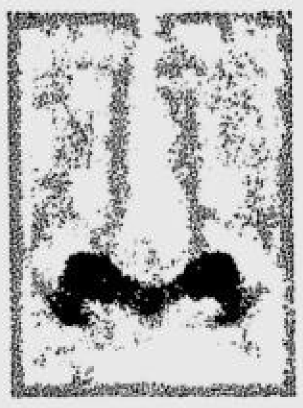
❼ Then send message. Message sent will be confirmed.

FOR INQUIRIES, CALL 171.

PLDT tXt 135
If you can't say it, txt it.
PLDT
convergence@home
www.pldt.com.ph

Shotgun

Matangos


Manipis

Mamula-mula

Pango

Tabingi

Before I start breaking my bones . . .

By LIKHA C. CUEVAS
2bU! Correspondent
UP Los Baños

WHEN I was in high school, my friend Leilani and I used to wonder, "What if we enroled in an aikido class?" whenever we were struck with ennui that afflicted most of the graduating seniors that time. But we never had the chance to experience it.

Five years had passed and my interest in martial arts has been renewed since it was featured in the "Pugad Baboy" comic strip series.

What's with aikido that all of its practitioners seemed so hooked on it?

So I did a little investigation before plunging into something that can break my bones.

What is aikido for dummies like me?

I watched demos of aikido and it seemed like throwing an opponent on the mat while trying to kill each other. I wonder if I would survive such blows and throws.

But on the contrary, this form of martial arts developed by Morihei Ueshiba (or *O Sensei*) advocates nonviolence. Huh?! Martial arts discipline striving for peace and harmony? Sounds like Samurai X to me.

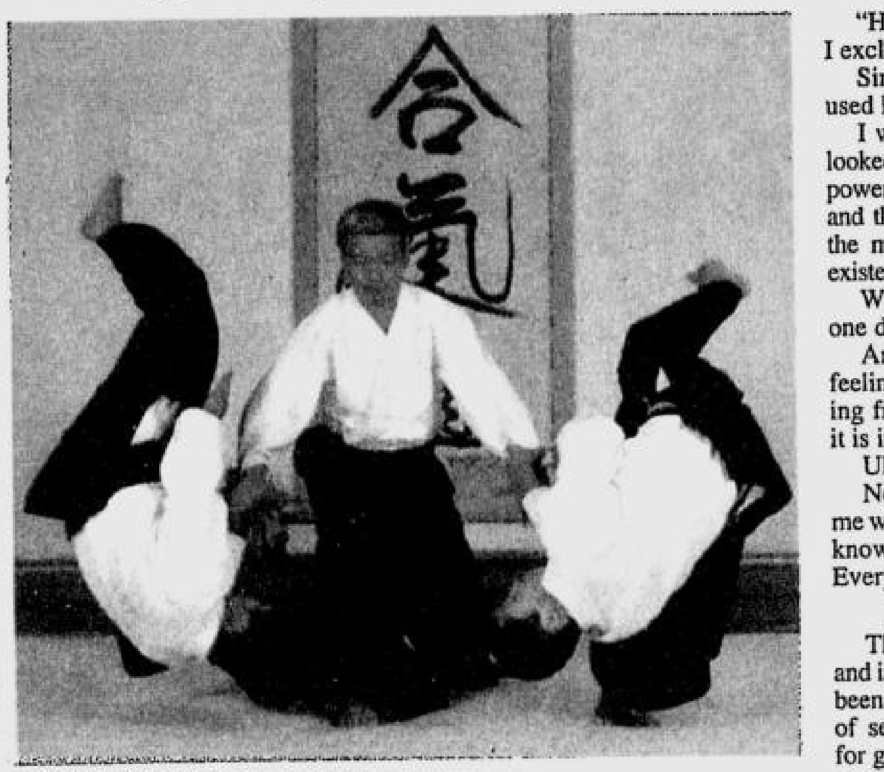
This paradox is the basic tenet of the art, so I've learned. Aikido focuses not on punching or kicking opponents (though it looks like it at first) but the *nage* (thrower) uses the energy of the *uke* (throwee or attacker) and redirects his blows and throws away from the *nage*. It emphasizes the motion and dynamics of movement.

Again, again, again…

It's like this: If someone slaps you, you slap back or you slap him before he slaps you. Using the principle of aikido, you guide his slap away from you by blending with his energy and motion that you end up not getting hurt.

Try watching it. I commented to one *aikidoka* (practitioner) friend of mine that it's like watching two people dance. Or I may be having fancy thoughts in my head.

Well, I may be right. My friend said that if the *nage* and *uke* are good, the movements are fluid that opponents look like they're doing a "violent" dance.



In aikido, there is no competition, no concept of opponent or rival. An *aikidoka* considers his *nage* or *uke* as his partner and each tries to optimize the experience of the other. This way of thinking also reduces the chance of injury while practicing. (Okay, that reduces my fears.)

In another demo I've watched, an old white-haired *nage* was able to pin down his *uke*'s hand on the mat without laying a finger on his partner.

"How the hell did he do that?!" I exclaimed.

Simple, my friend said, the *nage* used his *ki/chi*.

I watched them again. The *nage* looked like he used his eyes (staring powerfully at the *uke*) for a second and then the *uke* once again fell on the mat. I thought this *ki/chi* only existed in the cartoons I love to watch.

What is this *ki/chi*? How does one do that?

An *aikidoka* said that, "It is a feeling of some kind of energy coming from the mind and body when it is in harmony."

Uhhh…what's that again?

No one could really explain to me what this *ki/chi* is. "*Basta*, you'll know when you've developed it. Everybody has it."

Self-defense

Though aikido advocates peace and is an alternative to violence, I've been told that it's a powerful method of self-defense. Good! It's perfect for girls like me who are constantly afraid of muggers and rapists.

In practicing aikido, joints are not broken but if the situation warrants it, one could break bones and joints.

However, the more you learn, the more you prefer not to hurt your opponent. Through learning, you will know what can kill, so you can exercise the option not to kill.

I've watched demos that involved swords and knives (ah well, they're all wooden *naman*). Aikido can teach how to disarm an attacker without violence on the part of the person being attacked.

Spiritual

Weird as it may seem, this form of martial arts is also about spiritual enlightenment. This discipline emphasizes its moral and spiritual aspects. It requires you to love your self, love others (that's why it resorts to non-violence), peace and harmony.

How is that? Well, I've got to see for myself, my friend said.

Hmm…it seemed that this sport is more than just physical development or self-defense.

It would not do if I would just read books and watch practices and demos of aikido. There's no reason for me to chicken out again. Besides, it would really help me a lot if I learned how to defend myself. I also need some physical activity—I'm already getting fat.

Now, if only I could persuade Leilani to join me again in my search for that perfect dojo.

Three of a kind

(From page E1)

How did you get started in your field of sports?

Vanessa: I used to teach aerobics but they were kinda athletic and not dancy. I have a beat but I cannot dance if my life depended on it. So when I went to the States, a friend told me to try this class. She said it's really fun and it's the highest calorie-burning workout that has been clocked by a lot of fitness magazines. So I said, "Sure, why not?"

Jasmine: Well, I started when I was 15 before I went to college. At first it was just *sa* peer group. It was just interest in the sport. Later on when I started practicing at UST, the coach said that I was a potential player so he took me into the team and I started playing for the Varsity.

Candy: I started playing basketball when I was really young. My brothers were into it and my dad put a court up in our house so I just played there with them. I loved it so I'd practice on my own, like two hours a day, just playing.

What were the obstacles you encountered? Were you discouraged?

V: The guys would come off with a "I can do this better" and what not.

But, you know, it's part of that. It's part of the fun. What I do when I get attitude like that is make it into a challenge and then it works better for me.

J: It's quite normal that an athlete would have a hard time doing schoolwork and managing time for school. So I would go to class in the morning and train in the evening. It's (also) just natural to get bruised and get minor injuries. It's a very active sport but anyone can really join.

C: It took a lot of discipline and work. They say if you play basketball, you're a tomboy. That discouraged me because I liked to be a real girl playing basketball. In college, there's a lot of stereotypes on girls who play basketball. They say it's supposed to be for guys and girls aren't supposed to be playing it.

What pushed you to excel and stick to the sport as a female athlete?

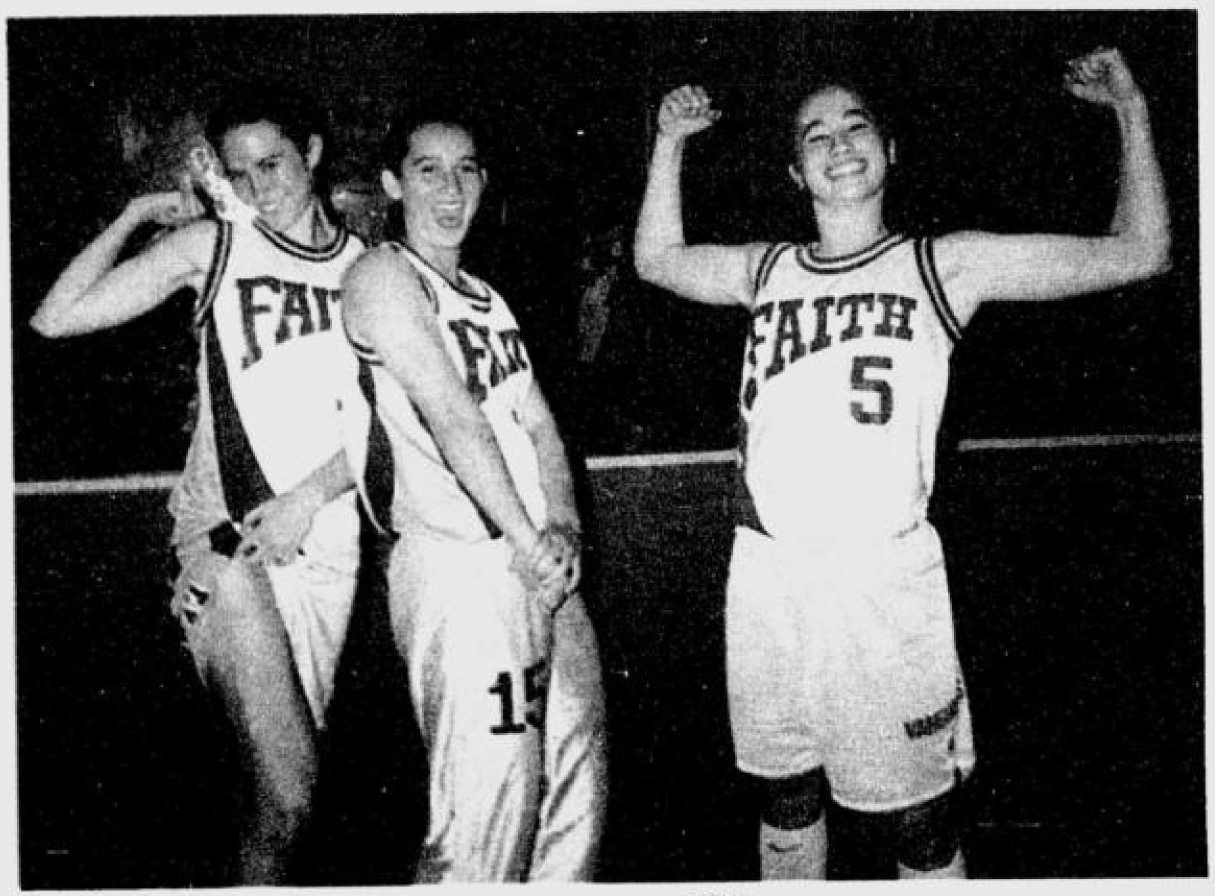
V: I've seen people really lose weight with the workout so I started believing in it. I just really wanted to stick with it. "And two years since I've been teaching it, a lot of people have lost weight and dropped a size and those are like really good rewards. Those are more achievements than like being on the paper.

C: I guess, the challenge to say, you know, women can be good in basketball and also because I really loved it. People can think this and that but I'm gonna play it because I enjoy this and it's worth my time, my effort.

What's your most memorable experience?

V: Meeting Billy Blanks because he is such an inspirational guy. He is so magnanimous. He always says that taebo is about changing lives, it's about making a difference in someone. You can tell by the way he speaks and the way he moves that he really means that and that he really wants to help people.

J: Probably September 1999 when we won the Olympic slots here in Manila and I won a silver. And of course, the competition itself, the Sidney Olympics 2000 because the level of competition was really different. And very few are given the chance to represent the country.



CANDY (third from left) clowns around with her high school teammates from Faith Academy in Antipolo.

C: Winning five years in a row in a tournament in Japan which made us the No. 1 high school in Southeast Asia. I really enjoyed the team and things like just hanging out with the players.

VANESSA strikes a pose with a high kick.

What do you think female athletes have that make them excel in sports?

V: Guys naturally can punch. They don't need a lot of supervision like women but they cannot last the hour (laughs). Women have endurance. I think it's because of the built. We're bottom-heavy, closer to the ground. Gravity, we're more centered.

J: Sometimes it's funny because they always say that men are stronger and I really don't believe it's like that. Women, scientifically proven, have greater endurance than men. During training, that's what I keep on thinking.

JASMINE in striking form

C: Girls have to try harder, so I guess they have an advantage in passion. It's something they really wanna do.

What do you think is the role of women in sports?

V: Women are still very conservative. Bu when you get to talk to these girls, they can give so much but are not given that opportunity. I've been working with a lot of young people. I figure you get them into sports early and they stick to it. I'm working really hard with a core group. I want them to be really professional trainers.

J: Women now are looked up to in the field of sports, so I think that is a very good thing that women are excelling now. And we are also given the equal attention. It's been different, like when I represented the country in the Olympics, there was almost an equal number of men and women competing.

C: One thing I really want to show is that you could be feminine and be really a woman and still be good in basketball or in sports. Women in general must be given a chance. We need more support and so I'd like to encourage people. It's fun to watch women play.

Tips and advice for aspiring female athletes

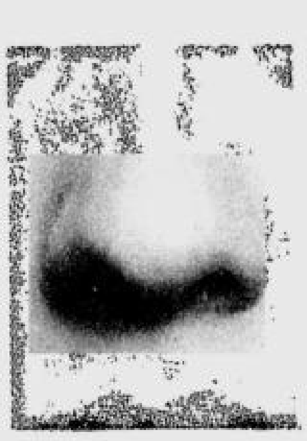
V: Do something you enjoy. When you play, you play with the passion. You have to be very passionate about it. If your heart's not there, it won't work. You have to really work and have proper discipline.

J: Be determined and know what you want and set a goal. Train well so you can achieve whatever you want.

C: Don't let men look down on you. Always try your hardest. If you really love the sport then go for it. Don't let obstacles stop you.

Pang-horror

Retokado



Pang-model

Pang-baby

Ilong Kamatis

Studded

Do-it-yourself basketball tournament

By Ike Sulat

Want to have the real feel of a league playoff? Why don't you establish your own league and tournament and feel like the NBA, Michael Jordan and Pat Riley all rolled into one

DO-IT YOURSELF TOURNA

ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

MY friends and I have a basketball team that we believe would fare well in a formal basketball tournament. It is one that is complete with referees, a committee and a championship game. The problem is, we come from diverse backgrounds and cannot find a league where we can qualify. Our youngest player is 19, and the oldest is 32. Our tallest player is 6'2", while the smallest is around 5'2". We work and live in different places, from Batangas to Cavite to Fairview.

So it wasn't exactly a stroke of genius when we decided to organize our own basketball tournament, one that wouldn't restrict the fact that our team has varied ages, heights and locations. We threw around the idea while playing our endless pickup games (which usually took place on a roadside court near Dimasalang, Sampaloc or at the Lourdes School gym on Shaw), until my basketball bud Rumar and I finally decided to act on it.

What follows are some of the logistical and actual requirements that we needed to understand and complete before the tournament could run.

People

Any organized event would be incomplete without participants, so we asked friends and officemates if they had a basketball team that they might want to field in our tournament.

We eventually got a commitment from teams connected with Asiaonline Philippines, Cocoplans Makati and the Nextstage group of companies, in addition to my own team, which is named LTSB (Laging Talo sa Basketball). So we had four teams now, who are ready to shoot hoops and give each other an elbow to the chin.

Place

It's important to get a playing court that is accessible to, and will satisfy the teams.

Asiaonline and Nextstage hold office in Libis, Quezon City, while Cocoplans and LTSB will come from Makati, so the Ortigas area is fair to all four teams. I decided to hold the tournament at the Lourdes School gym on Shaw Boulevard, in front of Medical City. The place is a nice regulation-size court that has wooden flooring, snap-back rims and fiberglass boards that can be rented P650 an hour.

That's quite pricey, I know, so look for playing courts around your area which will cost less, especially those government-sponsored establishments where you only need to secure a permit in order to play there.

Rules

This part is a bit tricky, because all the teams involved will definitely have an opinion on everything. What we did was call for a representative from each team, to attend a meeting to decide on league matters.

We discussed, among other things, how long the tournament would run, what rules to apply, the name of the tournament and how much the teams should pay...

After the dust of arguments and counter-arguments had settled, the four teams decided on a single round of games among the teams, a playoff-style elimination round and a sudden-death championship game.

We also decided to implement UAAP-based rules, as opposed to the actual official rules laid out by Fiba (International Basketball Federation—www.fiba.com).

The prize would not be the usual trophy, but a medal for each of the winning team's members. And, well, we named the tournament "Lourdes Invitational 2001."

Cost and prizes

Another touchy area. Should the organizers profit from this or not?

We decided against profit, so we just asked the teams to pay for the time they will be playing on the court, plus the cost of hiring a pair of referees for each game. Co-organizer Rumar and I decided to shoulder the costs of a game clock, a shotclock, a whiteboard (for scoring), whiteboard markers, some whistles (to call violations, fouled-out players, etc.), a stat book and some ball pens. And because we felt that this league is our "baby," we also decided to pay for the medals, too.

It would have been great if we managed to find a sponsor for our tournament, but we didn't make any effort toward it. Who would want to sponsor a tournament where only the opposing teams watch each other?

Uniforms

The league reps agreed that tailor-made uniforms weren't a requirement and settled instead on color-coded clothes. Numbers on the player's shirts were also not necessary, but we learned later that it made life easier for the committee and the referees. It should be an obligation.

Actual games

On the actual games, since we have a small league, we agreed that the committee should be comprised of people coming from teams that aren't playing; it became sort of a shared-responsibility thing. They will be the ones scoring the game, writing down statistics, and taking care of the shotclock, gameclock and fouls.

So...

Our tournament has already finished two playing dates, and we were wrong. Our team is not yet up to playing in a formal league. LTSB's is 0-2, which means it is playing true to its name.

Resources:

Medals and trophies: Raon Street, Sta. Cruz sports stores

Referees: BAP-Barecom (Basketball Association of the Philippines-Basketball Referees Commission, tel. 523-4936, 525-6780)

Shotclock/gameclock: Any watch store

Statbook: School supplies stores, sports stores

Official rules: UAAP rules

E-mail the author at ikesulat@yahoo.com

---

parent trapped

ms. merit answers

Now that summer vacation is here, let us take that long awaited break to relax. And what better way to relax than to read a book. Make your children read throughout this break. Our nation is not a reading country compared to other nationalities of the world. And with the proliferation of cable programs, video games, etc. the threat of illiteracy is even greater. As a parent, make every effort to encourage your children to read. And if they develop the love of reading, then you have given your child a gift that will last a lifetime.

How can you accomplish this when your children finds playstation, cable television fun and reading the opposite?

- Set aside a time and a place for reading. Allow your children to read past bedtime.
- Choose the reading material carefully. Make sure your children are interested in what they are reading. Remember that reading per se is not fun. Reading is fun only if you are interested in what you are reading.
- Make your trip to bookstores a family outing thing.
- Don't be limited to books. Reading material is everywhere: on newspapers, on comics, on recipes, on labels, etc.
- Be familiar with children's books. They are always on sale in the major bookstores. Sometimes, I read children's books because they are wonderfully entertaining, even to adults like myself.
- Be a role model for your children by being a reader yourself.
- Share your thoughts with your children about the material after reading.

OTHER SUMMER ACTIVITIES:

- Sports Lessons
- Culinary Lessons
- Computer Lessons
- Bible Vacation School & Camp
- Personality Enhancement
- Summer Jobs

Please send your questions to merit paper products, parent trapped, 88 Samson Road, cor MPL Road, Sucat, Muntinlupa City, or fax us at 02.842.1626.

Torn between two guys who are the best of friends

September Mahino & Carlos Garchitorena

DEAR Sep and Caloy,

My problem is about platonic relationship. I had a very close friend. He's a really nice guy who seems to be very interesting and mysterious. Let's call him Mark. Everything was fine between the two of us for we enjoyed each other's company and we had regular conversations on the telephone until we had a fight last November. It was all my fault that he got angry so I couldn't blame him for feeling that way.

After a week, I was surprised that he was the one who took the initiative to patch things up and told me that he couldn't stand to get mad at me. I was so happy then because he talked sincerely and his voice sounded serious. We never had a talk like that before. That night, he told me that he did have feelings for me. I asked him if he was sure about that and he said yes. He said that he tried stopping himself from falling for me but it was no good. He also told me that he just used my friend (whom I knew was his prospect) to conceal his feelings for me. He asked me if we could be more than friends. I did not know what to say. I just answered him with a safe, "Let's just be friends, okay?"

Then he went to the US for Christmas vacation. Everything was fine before he left. He even told me that he would really miss me and that he would keep in touch. A lot of things happened the day he left. It was as if my other guy friends rejoiced that he left and they all started calling me up, texting and asking me to go out with them. Well, I had the chance to meet his best friend, Patrick, who seemed to like me. We never really got to talk to each other. I just knew him before because Mark never failed to mention him in his stories. I just knew him by name then.

Mark and I still kept in touch. He e-mailed me every day of things he did the whole day. I never lied to him. I even told him about Patrick. I was surprised that one day, Patrick called me up asking if we could meet or eat out. I told Mark about this but he did not reply and I thought that I could go out with Patrick. I did meet Patrick but I did not have any physical attraction to him. Weeks went on and we have gotten along quite well. We started to get to know each other and became close friends.

Patrick was really open with his feelings. He's a typical guy who's a sweet-talker and a big flirt with girls, especially on the phone. He confessed that he happened to like me but he was courting another girl that time. He insisted that his feelings are true and kept on saying the three magical words.

I continued to update Mark with what's happening to me and when he came back after two weeks, he seemed to avoid me. He did not even bother to call me up or even text me.

This started to perplex me. How come he did not want to talk to me when everything was fine before he left?

I continued my friendship with Patrick and he always tells me stories about Mark and him going on gimmicks and they never fail to talk about me. I kept on wondering why Mark did not want to talk to me. I was open about this to Patrick and he told me that maybe Mark became jealous of him.

I really don't like Patrick in the first place but I don't know what to feel for him because I don't know if he's sincere or he's just saying that because he happens to be a sweet-talker. I kept on thinking about Mark the whole Christmas break and I realized that I really like him. Now, I'm regretting what I've told him when he asked me if I want us to be more than friends. I never ceased thinking of the possibilities and all the better things that should have been if I said yes to him.

One day, Mark called me up and it seemed as if everything was fine and nothing has happened. Now, we seem to be talking quite often, like before. I asked him why he did not want to talk to me when he arrived from the US. He told me that he was deciding on whether he would continue his plans for me or not. He asked me if I like Patrick and I told him I don't. I'm so confused right now. I don't know how I feel about Mark, my best friend who is not sweet at all but sincere, and Patrick, Mark's best friend who is a sweet-talker and really caring.

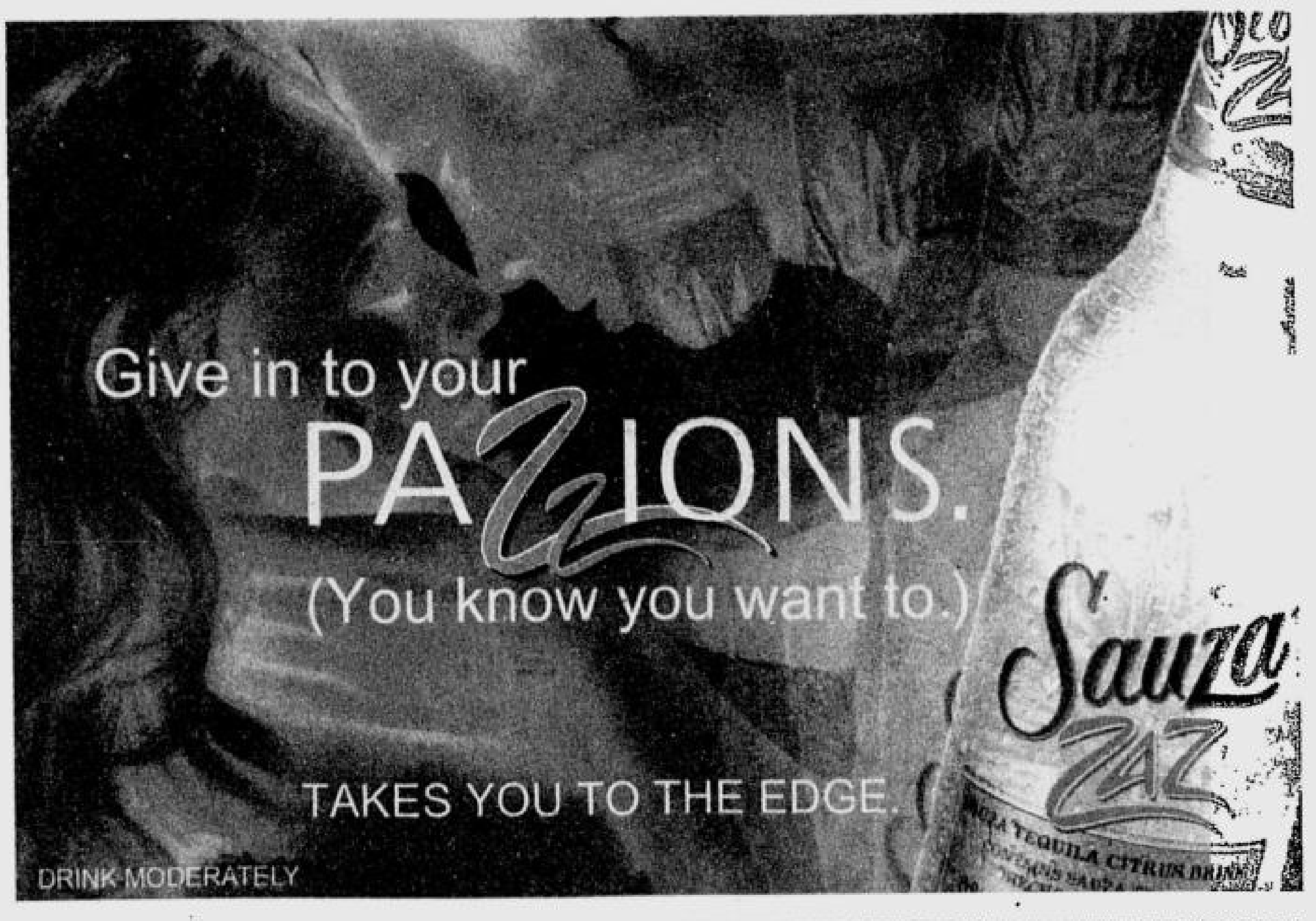
I think I've really fallen for Mark already but I don't think he likes me anymore. Patrick, on the other hand is still trying to convince me that he's saying the truth and he wants to prove it to me. I'm torn between two guys who happen to be the best of friends. I don't know who I want to keep and who I want to let go. I'm afraid that I'll be making the wrong decision and that I'll end up with the wrong guy. I need your help. Thanks! More power!

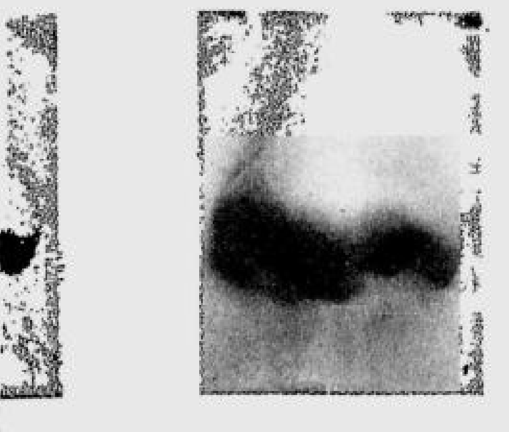
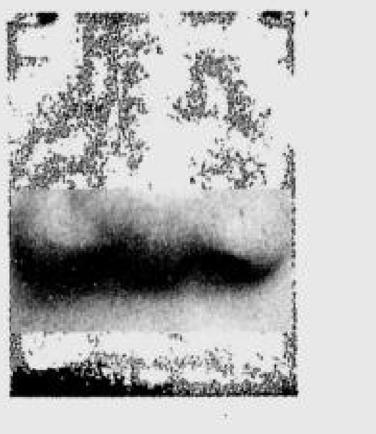
KYM

Torn between two lovers, feeling like a fool... Sounds familiar? If not, then you're too young to be troubled about boys.

Otherwise, read on.

TORN/ p.E4



Runny Nose

Clogged Nose

Ang ilong-Pinoy tiwala sa NEOZEP.

Iba-iba ang hugis ng ilong-Pinoy. Pero 'pag sinipon, pare-pareho sila ng tinatakbuhan: Neozep. Kasi, napatunayan na nating ito'y tunay na Total Cold Specialist. Nagpapaginhawa ng lahat ng sintomas ng sipon — mapa-clogged nose, runny nose o headache. Certified safe ng Department of Health at Bureau of Food and Drugs.

Kaya naman basta sipon, Neozep ang matagal na nating pinagkakatiwalaan.

Phenylpropanolamine HCl • Chlorphenamine • Paracetamol • Salicylamide • Ascorbic Acid
NEOZEP

The Total Cold Specialist

'Almost Famous' rocks and rolls

By Alexis L. Loinaz

REVIEW

MANY movies bill themselves as "deeply personal films" by either their directors or actors. Some turn out to be instant classics (Steven Spielberg's requiem to his Jewish heritage, "Schindler's List," comes to mind) while others become classic bombs (anyone for a repeat viewing of "Battlefield Earth," John Travolta's Scientology-themed vanity project?).

Of all these, few truly achieve the poignancy and heartfelt resonance of "Almost Famous," the autobiographical film by writer-director Cameron Crowe about his days as a budding rock journalist in the 1970s.

Set during an era when sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll were a generation's existential touchstones, "Almost Famous" is Crowe's anthem to the bands, groupies and music that shaped him as a journalist, and then eventually as a filmmaker.

Film enthusiasts revere Crowe for his deft talent at telling gentle, touching stories; the writer-director also made the surprisingly perceptive teen romance "Say Anything" and 1996's Oscar-nominated revelation "Jerry Maguire." Few, however, know that Crowe started out as one of rock magazine Rolling Stone's youngest writers when he was only 16 years old. During his stint at the publication, he profiled many prominent musicians and worked his way up to associate editor.

With Crowe's shift to filmmaking, it's no wonder that music figures prominently in many of his movies. Can anyone forget John Cusack holding up a boom box to Ione Skye in "Say Anything" while Peter Gabriel's "In Your Eyes" blared? How about Tom Cruise singing along to Tom Petty's "Free Fallin'" in "Jerry Maguire"? Or even Crowe's 1992 film, "Singles," which focused on Seattle's grunge rock scene?

In "Almost Famous," Crowe takes rock 'n' roll and makes it the backdrop to a coming-of-age story of a precocious boy thrust into a musical maelstrom.

It's 1973 and writing prodigy William Miller (played by newcomer Patrick Fugit) has been tapped by Rolling Stone to cover the fictional band Stillwater. Of course, the magazine doesn't realize that William is only 15 years old, having made all of the arrangements by phone.

PATRICK Fugit as William Miller

"ALMOST Famous" director Cameron Crowe (right) with actors who play his alter ego

Against the wishes of his strong-willed mother, William sneaks backstage during one of the band's concerts with the help of some stalwart groupies—all headed by the magnetic Penny Lane (a luminous Kate Hudson). She is quick to point out, however, that they are not groupies but rather "band aids" who just like to tag along.

Eventually, Stillwater takes William on the road with them as they tour city after city. But as the weeks drag on, he discovers more about the band than they'd care for him to know: That its mercurial lead singer, Jeff (Jason Lee), and laid-back guitarist, Russell (Billy Crudup), have constant ego clashes; that Penny Lane carries on a tempestuous affair with Russell; and that everyone is always strung-out on something at any given point in time.

By the time the tour is over and the music stops playing, William finally returns home—less naïve, more mature and deeply changed by the entire experience.

The beautiful thing about "Almost Famous" is that you can sense it was directed with so much fondness and affection. Crowe has said he always wanted to make a film about the '70s rock scene he grew up in and pay tribute to the many people who helped him along the way. In "Almost Famous," he does this with quiet sincerity: The film has enormous respect and regard for its characters and easily makes them seem like old friends from the moment they walk on screen.

We see this in the way Crowe portrays the different personalities. Not once does he turn them into caricatures—which this film could have easily done. Rather, he draws upon his own observations of the actual people these characters are based on and lets their idiosyncrasies bring each musician, each fan, each kin to life. In fact, Crowe doesn't even have to try very hard; these people are so larger-than-life, so charged, so vibrant that Crowe can just sit back and let them work their magic.

Best of all, "Almost Famous" is crafted with a refreshing lack of mushy sentimentality and a great deal of honesty. Crowe knows that his material in inherently engaging, exhilarating, tragic and comic—probably since most of it is real—so he lets it speak for itself. Because of this, we get scenes of exceptional tenderness and emotion: A delightfully stunned William sitting on a bed in his underwear while three girls circle him before deflowering him; a worried Mrs. Miller alone in her kitchen as she talks to her son on the phone and tells him she loves him; and a devastated Penny Lane shedding a tear after William tells her some painful news.

"Almost Famous" also features a wonderful ensemble cast. As Crowe's on-screen alter ego, Patrick Fugit—with his curious gaze and goofy mop of a hairdo—perfectly captures William's wide-eyed innocence.

There's also the immensely engaging Frances McDormand who plays William's mom, Elaine. McDormand is up for a best supporting actress Oscar for her performance in this film and it's easy to see why: With her nerves of steel and heart of gold, she brings substance and dimension to what otherwise could have been a stereotypical "mother role."

But the one performer who embodies the film's soul is Hudson. As Penny Lane, Hudson manages to be both coy and seductive, lighthearted and emotionally burdened. Her transformation from carefree ingenue to desperate doyenne is quite heartwrenching; the more Penny Lane strips off her protective layers, the more protective we become of her. Hudson's performance has also earned her an Oscar nomination for best supporting actress and she truly deserves to win the award.

Simple yet sublime, "Almost Famous" is a fine example of what happens when inspired writing, strong directing and understated acting come together. And like a good rock song, "Almost Famous" is the kind of movie that you play over and over in your head—lyrical, memorable and bursting with an energy that just makes you want to tap your feet, snap your fingers and smile. Talk about hitting all the right notes.

E-mail the author at lextat@mkt.weblinq.com

Torn between two guys who are the best of friends

(From page E3)

I believe it was Socrates who said, "By all means, marry! If you marry, well, you become happy. If not, you become a philosopher." You, in spite of, or perhaps because of being such a boy-magnet, are plagued by too many "what ifs." If I were you, I would do exactly what Mark did. Deep-think, soul-search, and answers you will find. Is it really a relationship that you want? And who says that one of these two clowns is *the* one, right?

Here's a biggie: Since they're best friends, I'm sure you can arrange a date with both of them at the same time. Trust me, you will learn so much about yourself, your instincts and maybe even a lesson in multitasking, if you know what I mean. Seriously, the truth will out if you do. For better or worse, the truth will out. They're best friends, right? And you're checking for any ulterior motives, right? You might even start a fad.

CALOY

Hi there!

Whoa! Some hot girl you must be to have two guys vying for your attention. That should be fun, but I don't think you find it so fun.

Mark seems like a really nice guy, based on what you've told us. Nice, except for using that other girl as a ploy. But it's probably for the best that you just stayed friends with him, because he strikes me as a clingy person. I mean, you were not his girlfriend and yet you received daily e-mails from him last vacation. Not that there's anything drastically wrong with that, it's just stifling. Of course, now, you regret doing what you did and saying what you said, but that is the price you pay for being prudent. Anyway, he still obviously likes you and, given time, he might pursue you again. Hopefully.

I don't like this Patrick guy, however. He seems like a shady character, and I have a thing against guys who go after their friends' romantic interests. Plus, he's a sweet-talker and a big flirt. There should be a big "Girls, beware!" sign on his forehead. Or maybe just "Kym and Mark, beware!" I say, with this guy, don't buy the things he says, especially the "three magical words." They can cause you a lot of heartache and trouble.

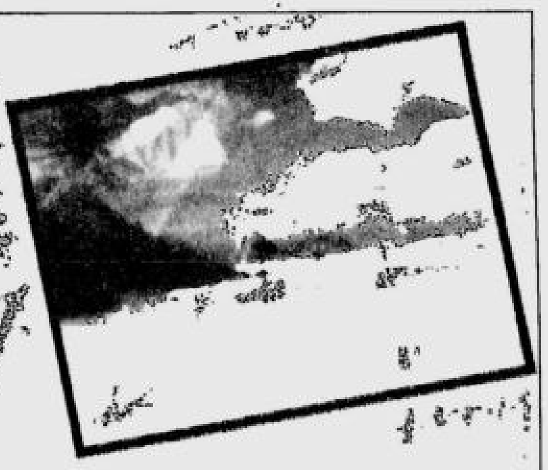
I think the only thing you can do now is to stay unattached. I'm not saying that you should avoid them. Just observe them without playing "Eenie meenie mynie mo" or something like that in your head. Maybe these two have conspired to play mind-and-heart games with you, or maybe they both really, really like you. Only time can tell. Meanwhile, don't bother your pretty head too much because boys and boy problems always have a way of working themselves out. And they're best friends; if nasty things happen involving the three of you, chances are they'd still end up as friends and you'd end up alone.

Good luck!

SEP

Northwest Airlines and Cebu Pacific proudly announce the most exciting partnership to hit the skies. Now, all Northwest Airlines WorldPerks members can earn miles and redeem award travel on Cebu Pacific flights. That's added great value from Cebu Pacific. Looking forward to seeing you on your next flight!

Call Cebu Pacific at 636-4938 or Northwest Airlines at 817-0616 / 819-7346 for details.



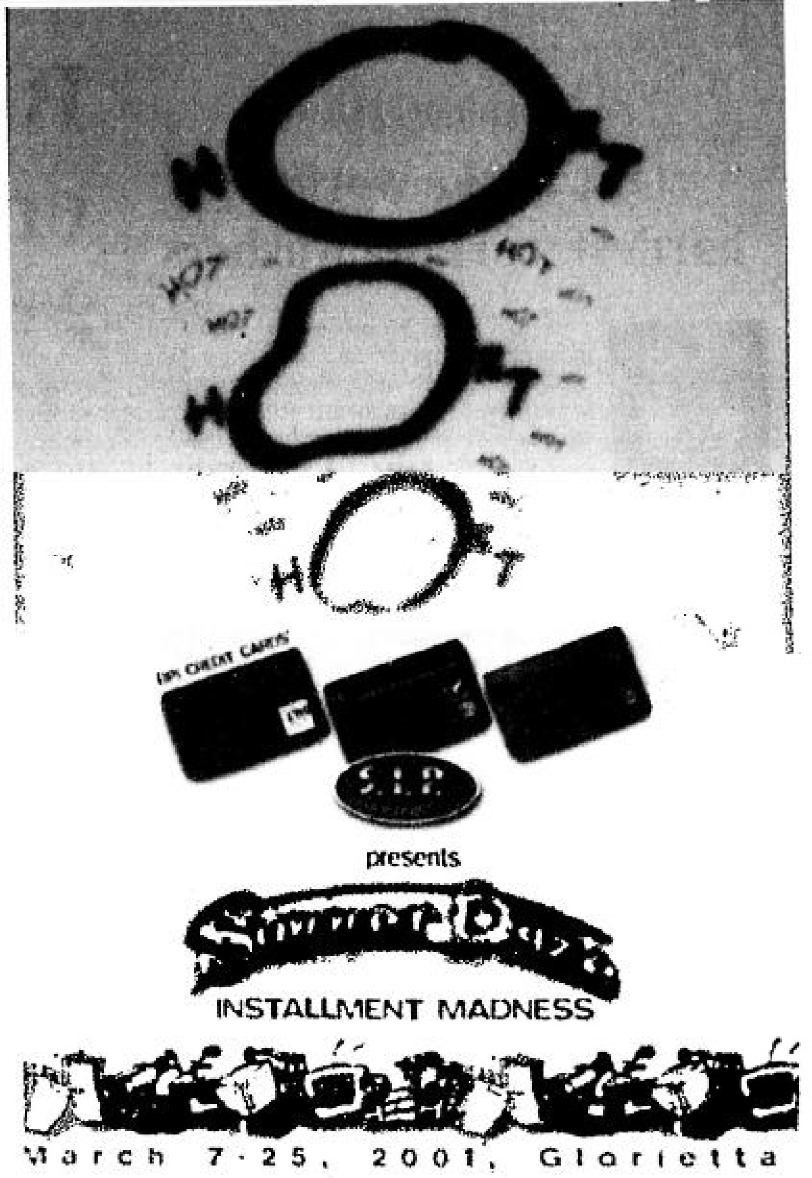
Northwest Airlines selects Cebu Pacific as its WorldPerks Program partner in the Philippines.

CEBU PACIFIC

NORTHWEST AIRLINES
WORLDPERKS MILEAGE PROGRAM

BPI Credit Cards

Aries B. Espinosa, Assistant Editor   SPROJECTS@INQUIRER.COM.PH   **Aggie Pinili**, Account Manager



The best 'Summer Daze' of your life

WITH summer already making its presence felt, everybody is gearing up for the hotter-than-usual season once again. The hot months are forthcoming and, most likely, people would want something to make the season cooler and more fun.

Fact is, this is the time to finally get that new airconditioner. With summer providing more time for leisure, perhaps acquiring that tempting DVD player and flat-screen TV wouldn't be so bad, either.

After all, BPI's 24th Installment madness, dubbed "Summer Daze," makes it all so easy to make your summer complete, memorable and so much more enjoyable. Summer Daze starts today and lasts until March 25 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati City.

BPI credit cardholders will be glad to know that this latest Installment Madness offers the best value for their money. There are the easy installment terms: 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months. Moreover, there is zero-percent interest on selected items and selected terms.

Cardholders get the chance to enjoy the unique benefits of the BPI credit card, which includes having two credit lines. The first credit line is the one which can be used for daily purchases from the drugstore, grocery and gas station, among others. The second line is known as the S.I.P. or Special Installment Plan which can be used for purchasing high-ticket items. This feature is great for use in an installment fair such as Summer Daze.

Participating appliance brands are Aiwa, American Home, Ariston, Concepcion-Carrier, JVL International, General Electric, JVC, Kolin, La Germania, LG Electronics, National/Panasonic, Philips, Pioneer, Sharp, Sony, Whirlpool, Daewoo, and Fisher and Paykel.

Furniture hunters can find Ambiance One, Blims and Homeplus in the Madness. Computer freaks will enjoy choices from Electroworld, the Computer Authority (TCA) and Villman Computer Systems Inc. Other participants in Summer Daze are Globe Handyphone, Canon Cameras, Mitsukoshi Motorcycles and Home Cable.

Participating dealers are Abenson, Automatic Centre, Ansons, Ambassador Appliances, Waltermart, Sogo, SM Appliance and Western. The good news is, the promo is extended to all Metro Manila branches of all participating dealers and selected S.I.P.-accredited merchants at Glorietta and Park Square 1.

Those going to Summer Daze can also look forward to support services such as card application, requests for extension and increase in credit limit.

The arrival of Summer Daze is simply another chance to enjoy the best value for your money and the best summer of your life.

Owning a Whirlpool is now easier than you think

YOUR home is one of your most valued investments, which is why you put time and effort into choosing the right products to complement it—from furniture to accessories. One area foremost on your mind as a homemaker is basic kitchen equipment that can be your partners for convenient homemaking. And what you look for is nothing short of world-class quality, so that your investment can be enjoyed for many years.

Whirlpool understands the kind of value you want to place in your home. Thus, it prides itself in creating world-class products that guarantee the kind of life you and your family deserve. Take the Whirlpool AWM 243 washer, for instance, that comes with ultra-convenient features you won't find in other brands.

The AWM 243 fully-automatic washer makes your weekly laundry load less of a chore by making washing so much easier. A front-loading feature for ultra-ease also comes with a child safety lock for utmost security. Plus, it has a revolutionary built-in heater and an adjustable temperature control, so water can be set to hot or cold, depending on the type of fabric to be washed. Each piece of clothing undergoes a customized wash that ensures thorough cleaning and fabric care. Discover the unbeatable convenience of the washer's specialized dispenser for detergent, fabric softener, and bleach, so you can leave the cleaning to the machine.

Imagine that kind of convenience working for your home. Now, imagine how easy it is to own the AWM 243 as Whirlpool joins the BPI Installment Madness. Check out the Glorietta today and discover the easy payment options with your BPI card.

Whirlpool
HOME APPLIANCES
BRINGS QUALITY TO LIFE
AWM 243

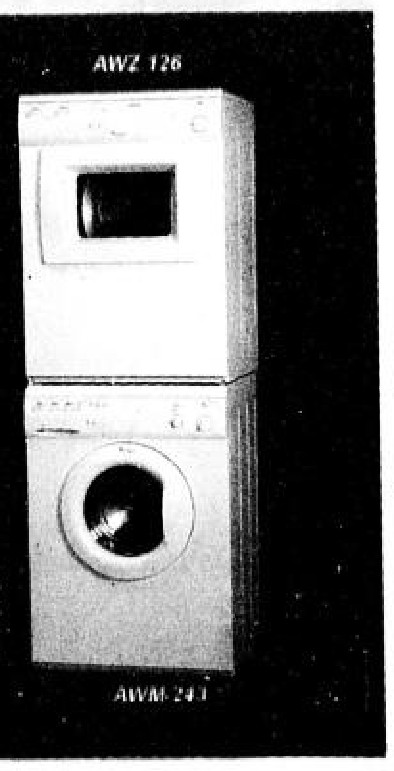
The Whirlpool Washer
Balances a Whirlpool woman's life like magic.

Balance. This is what a Whirlpool woman wants. Between being an active career woman and a busy homemaker, this seems almost impossible. But with Whirlpool's line of world-class home partners, balance happens in the Whirlpool woman's life like magic. Such are the features of the ***fully-automatic*** Whirlpool washers, like the ***AWM 243***, that makes washing clothes so much easier. With a ***front loading*** feature for ultra-ease that also comes with a ***child safety lock*** for utmost security. Plus a revolutionary ***built-in heater*** and an ***adjustable temperature control***, so water can be set to hot or cold, depending on the type of fabric to be washed. And with a ***specialized dispenser for detergent, fabric softener, and bleach***, laundry can be left in the washer for an effective cleaning all on its own. That's Whirlpool convenience for you!

The ***Whirlpool AWM 243 Washer*** and the Whirlpool woman. Partners that truly bring magic into the home.

Visit or call us!
MANILA : 22 D. Tuazon St., Quezon City • Tel. No. 732-7370 • Fax. No. 732-7375
MAKATI : 3rd Level, Glorietta 4 (inside Automatic Center), Makati City • Tel. Nos. 729-6450 to 52
CEBU : Lot 3 Block 5 Mandaue North Central, Castilex Compound, Cabancalan, Mandaue City, Cebu • Tel. No. (032) 345-3105
WHIRLPOOL PRODUCTS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING STORES NATIONWIDE

For space-saving convenience, the AWM 243 washer can be stacked with the AWZ 126 dryer using accessory AMH 542.



AMERICAN HOME

One of the world's hardest working washers

Extra Large Stainless Steel Stub - To keep clothes looking their best, longer. Unlike other plastic materials, stainless steel actually becomes smoother with each use, so it is less likely to snag or fray clothes.

Large or Extra Large Capacity - American Home washers can handle big, family-size loads with ease.

Advanced Suspension System - American Home's unique Automatic Balance System (ABS) provides the industry's best out-of-balance handling, virtually eliminating the possibility of an unbalanced load.

Commercial Quality Transmission - Our transmission is of the highest quality and durability, with proven results in our rugged commercial models.

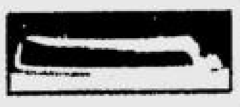
Poly Tuff Curved Vane Agitator - The high vanes and extra long 210o agitation stroke deliver side-to-side, top-to-bottom washing action, to get your clothes their cleanest.

Multi-Cycle - American Home offers you a choice of washing options to help you keep clothes looking their best, day after day.

DRYERS

Extra Large Drying Capacity - Our super capacity 10.5-kg drying cylinder needs very little space, yet easily handles large loads.

Door Opening - American Home features the industry's larger dryer door opening for easy access to clothes inside.



Heavy-Duty Exhaust Fan - Fabrics will dry quickly and evenly with this efficiently designed exhaust fan.

Upfront Secured Lint Filter - For easy cleaning, American Home dryers have an up-front, secured lint filter located at the bottom of the door opening, where it can't be forgotten. No mess!

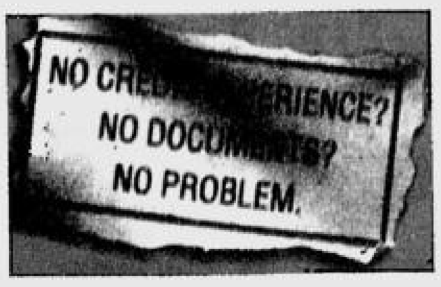
Multiple Venting - Four-way venting on electric dryers, three-way venting gas dryers, provides flexibility for installation convenience.

Adjustable End-of-Cycle Signal - A simple reminder that your clothes are dry.

Optimal Drying Rack - Tennis shoes and no-tumble fabrics dry quickly and easily with the removable drying rack.

Front Serviceability - Simple removal of front panel or control hood on both washer and dryer provides easy access for servicing from installed position.

BPI's hassle-free credit card application


NO CREDIT EXPERIENCE?
NO DOCUMENTS?
NO PROBLEM.

CREDIT cards are supposed to bring convenience. But many card applicants wonder why it proves inconvenient to get one. Consider the fact that credit card applications demand a lot of document requirements. Most of the time, applicants don't have the records at hand. They have to adjust their schedules just to get everything ready.

Good thing this hassle is bound for history as the Bank of the Philippine Islands introduces Express Start. The idea for Express Start allows BPI credit card applicants to get a credit card the quickest and easiest way without the usual requirements.

By simply making a deposit to any BPI or BPI Family Bank branch, an applicant can get a BPI Express Credit or BPI MasterCard. The application process does away with the prerequisite credit history and income documents.

The applicant must inquire from a BPI or BPI Family Bank branch's customer service desk to get the necessary details of Express Start. If the applicant already has a BPI or BPI Family Bank account, he or she can approach the branch manager and ask for directions on how to apply for a BPI credit card through Express Start.

There is an added treat for applicants. They can get their BPI Express Credit or BPI MasterCard within five working days from the date of receipt of the application during BPI Card's Summer Daze Installment Madness. Summer Daze happens from March 7 to 25 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati City.

The applicant can visit the Express Banking Centers at the Glorietta and inquire about getting the fully charged BPI Card fast and easy.

Fastest and easiest

There are just one too many requirements when it comes to credit card applications. Usually, you get discouraged because you don't have the time to collate all the requirements. Well, all these are about to change as the Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI) introduces the BPI Express Start.

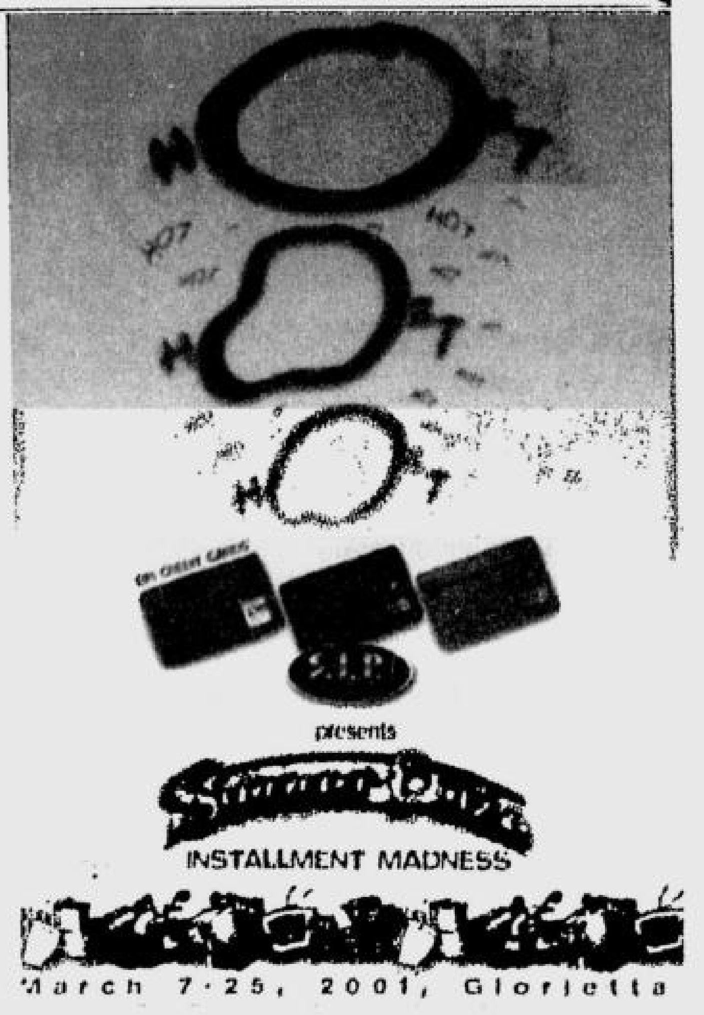
What makes this unique is that the BPI Express Start makes acquiring a credit card so easy and without the usual requirements such as credit history and income documents.

You can get a BPI Express Credit or BPI MasterCard by simply making a deposit to any BPI or BPI Family Bank branch. Just inquire from a customer service desk in your chosen BPI or BPI Family Bank branch to get the details of the program.

Those with existing accounts can inquire from the branch manager as to how you can apply for your own BPI credit card through the Express Start.

There is a bonus waiting in store for the quick respondents. You can get your very own BPI Express Credit or BPI MasterCard in five working days from the date of receipt of your application during the BPI Card's Summer Daze Installment Madness from March 7 to 25 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati City.

Simply visit the Express Banking Centers at the Glorietta and ask how you can own the fully-charged BPI credit card the fastest and easiest way possible.



BPI Card back with Travel Madness

or here...
here...
or here?

THE PIONEER in Installment Madness, BPI Card, is back with Travel Madness 2001. This is good news to those longing and planning to make that great escape. With Travel Madness, their ticket to their dream vacation (and destination) will be their BPI Express Credit or BPI MasterCard.

Whether it's fanciful Europe, adventurous North America or mystical Asia, the BPI cardholder can look forward to a wide range of destinations to choose from.

The best part of it all is that the BPI cardholder can pay off the trip in affordable Special Installment Plan (S.I.P.) terms of 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 or 24 months. The S.I.P. is a built-in feature of the BPI Card. The S.I.P. is also one of two credit lines (the other being the regular credit line for everyday purchases), thereby making the BPI Card fully charged for value.

Even cardholders that prefer to go local—on a trip to Cebu, Palawan, or Boracay or anywhere within the country—can still avail of Travel Madness 2001 and enjoy the S.I.P. rates.

The following participating travel agencies are ready to accept inquiries: Ark Travel Express, Caravan Travel and Tour, Kenstar Travel, Lucky Travel, Manila International Travel, Philscan Travel and Tour, Rajah Travel Corporation, Reli Tours and Travel, Universal Holidays, World Master Tours and Travel, and the Flight Shop Inc. Inquiries are also welcome at tel. no. 89-100.

Travel Madness 2001, sponsored by Canon Camera, Nextel and Delsen, runs from March 1 to December 15, 2001.

WATER LEVEL
TEMPERATURE
ACTION
OPTIONS
Super Wash
Maxi Wash
Regular Wash
Non Colourfast
NORMAL WASH
AMERICAN HOME
10.5kg EXTRA HEAVY DUTY

With the fully-automatic American Home Washing Machine you get

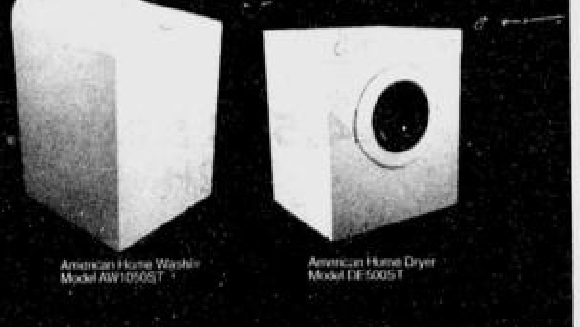
TEN YEARS TO LIFE

...**ten year-warranty** on its transmission, and a **lifetime warranty** on its stainless inner tub. Plus, it easily does **10.5** kg of wash at a time. So buy an American Home Washing Machine now-- and be the judge.

Free 1 liter Persil Laundry Detergent

Free 12 35ml Vernel Fabric Softener

LIFETIME ON STAINLESSSTEEL TUB WARRANTY



American Home Washer Model AW1050ST

American Home Dryer Model DF5005T

AMERICAN HOME
Simply The Best

For inquiries please call 374-4567 to 74 or contact us at cmtcvp@fastmail.i-next.net

SHARP

Always Ahead. Always Sharp.

before
after
SHARP

Flat with full-bodied sound.

Introducing Sharp Aphrody FLAT TV

with 20 watts True Stereo Speakers

- Pure Flat CRT
- Dynamic Focus and Contrast Enhancer
- Dynamic Sound Enhancer

SHARP Aphrody Flat TV automatically adjusts picture and sound quality to give you the sharpest pictures and the sharpest sound.

No glare. No distortions.

visit or call the SHARP showroom at Level 5 SM Megamall Bldg B (Tel. # 634 -8147 to 48) or http://www.sharp.ph

Available models: 29V-FL200S - (29") 676mm • 21V-FL200S - (21") 510mm

FEDDERS®

ROOM AIRCONDITIONERS

at Reduced Prices

AVAILABLE AT ALL LEADING DEALERS NATIONWIDE!

PROMO IS EXTENDED UNTIL MARCH 31, 2001.

APPROVED BY DTI-NCR

	BEFORE	NOW
1,764 kcal/hr. (3/4 HP) IFY-107	~~12,790~~	10,790
2,268 kcal/hr. (1HP) IFY-109	~~14,590~~	12,590
2,973 kcal/hr. (1.5HP) IFY-212	~~16,690~~	14,190
4,514 kcal/hr. (2HP) IFY-318	~~21,490~~	18,490

ALEN INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CORPORATION
Alen Group Building,40 Linaw St. Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City
732-2871, 732-2926, 732-2955, 712-4479, 415-2278, 415-2279, 415-2280, 410-0101, 413-6904, 413-6919, 413-6925, 413-6969, 413-6933, 413-6936, 413-6948, 413-6962, Fax:731-8386

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0060 Series of 2001

ELECTROWORLD
HOT HOT HOT
SUMMER TREAT
BPI Express Credit
MARCH 7-25, 2001 GLORIETTA MAKATI

ACEtech 8565B
Intel Pentium III/650 Mhz
64 MB SDRAM
10.2 GB HDD IDE
48 x CD Rom Drive
3D Soundcard
4MB VGA(shared)
Internal 56K Fax Modem
1.44MB FDD
14" Monitor Black
Windows ME OEM
Lotus Smartsuite OEM
Encyclopedia(2cd)
P33,995 cash
P2,034 /mo*

Bundled with EPSON Perfection 610 just add
P3,550
Flatbed Scanner
-600 X 1200 dpi
-USB Interface
-36-bit

ACEtech 6150W
P27,995 cash
P1,675 /mo*
AMD K6/2 500 Mhz
10.2 GB HDD
64 MB SDRAM Shared
48X CD Rom Drive
14" Monitor White
1.44MB FDD
8MB(shared) VGA
Internal 56K Fax Modem
Windows ME OEM
Lotus Smartsuite OEM
Encyclopedia(2cd)

Extended Warranty
Get 100%
SAVINGS ON PARTS
REPLACEMENT AND LABOR COST
INQUIRE AT ANY BRANCH OR IN BPI BOOTH

hp invent

HP Officejet 725 4-in-1 Print, scan, fax, copy in one
-W/auto document feeder
-600 x 1200 dpi
-6ppm black printing
-2 ppm color printing
-810 pages per month.
P5,331/ 3mos. 0%
P15,995 cash

HP Officejet G-55 3-in-1 Print, scan, copy in one
-600 x 360 dpi scanning
-12ppm-black printing
-10ppm-color printing
-12ppm-black copying
-4.2ppm-color copying
P5,665/ 6mos. 0%
P33,995 cash

HP PSC 500 3-in-1 Print, scan, copy in one
-8ppm black printing
-4.5 ppm color printing
-8cpm-black copying
-3 cpm-color copying
P6.665/ 3mos. 0%
P19,995 cash

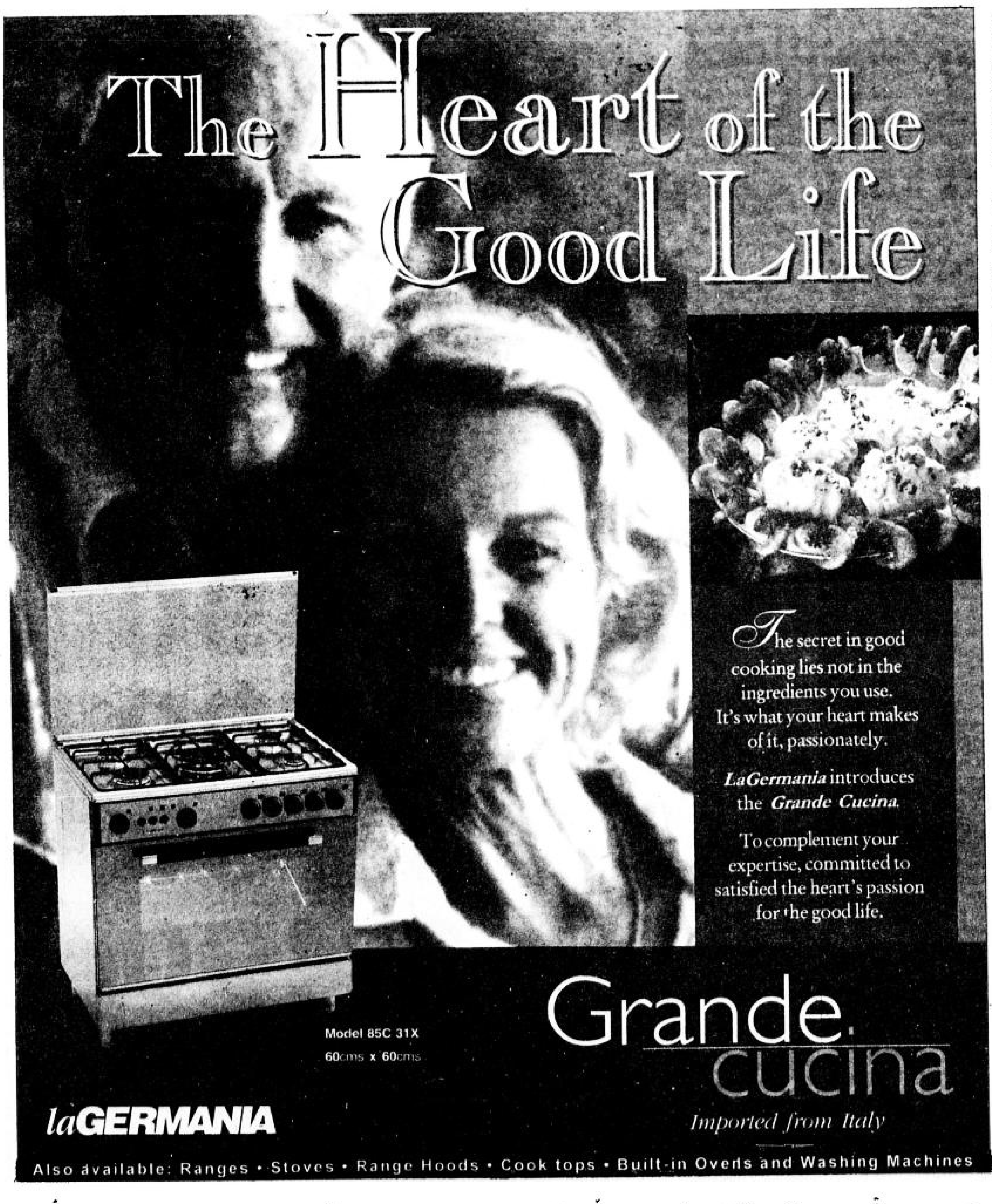
Canon
N 650U
FLATBED SCANNER
-600 X1200 dpi Resolution
-USB
-Sleek compaq design
P1.966/ 3mos. 0%
P5,900 cash

N 656U
FLATBED SCANNER
-600 X 1200 dpi Resolution
-USB
- Stylish silver looking
P2.300/ 3mos. 0%
P6,900 cash

Kodak
Camera CD-5000
Compact & lightweight
4MB Internal memory
640x480 res
create short video clips
P7,833/ 6mos. 0%
P47,000 cash

Camera CD-4800
3 1-megapixel resolution
manual & automatic settings
3x-optical/2x digital zoom
P7.483/ 6mos. 0%
P44,900 cash

HEAD OFFICE 816-6371 to 74 / 892-3051 to 54
e-mail: electroworld@abacor.com.ph
Website: www electroworld com
METRO MANILA BRANCHES:
MANILA
SM MANILA 524-8310 / 524-8315
BINONDO 242-5400 / 242-5493
QUEZON CITY
NEW FARMERS PLAZA 911-1494 /911-1785
WALTERMART QUEZON CITY 415-0729
SM CITY FAIRVIEW 418-6064 / 418-6072
SM CITY 927-9525 / 924-0014 & 34
CAINTA
ABENSON-CAINTA 681-5301 / TO 05
MANDALUYONG
SM MEGAMALL 633-1624 to 25 / 632-9535
MAKATI
WALTERMART MAKATI 892-9119 TO 20
PARK SQUARE 813-6154 / 813-2776
ABENSON-QUAD 894-0951
LAS PINAS
ALABANG 850-9682 / 850-8708
SM SOUTHMALL 800-0408
SOGO HOME & OFFICE FESTIVAL MALL850-3534 TO 39
SOUTHERN LUZON BRANCHES:
WALTERMART CALAMBA 545-1745
WALTERMART CAVITE 416-1327 / 416-2107
WALTERMART STA.ROSA 549-1241/549-1250
AYALA CENTER CEBU 232-5960 / 232-5988
SM CITY CEBU 232-0751 / 232-1659
CDO LIMKETKAI 856 2760 /729 243
DAVAO CITY 227-8201 / 221-0584
NOW OPEN SM PAMPANGA
Visit our Website: www.electroworld.com.ph
Visual may vary from actual item Prices & specification may change without prior notice Computed using BPI 24 mos rates



The Heart of the Good Life

The secret in good cooking lies not in the ingredients you use. It's what your heart makes of it, passionately.

LaGermania introduces the *Grande Cucina.*

To complement your expertise, committed to satisfied the heart's passion for the good life.

Grande. cucina
Imported from Italy

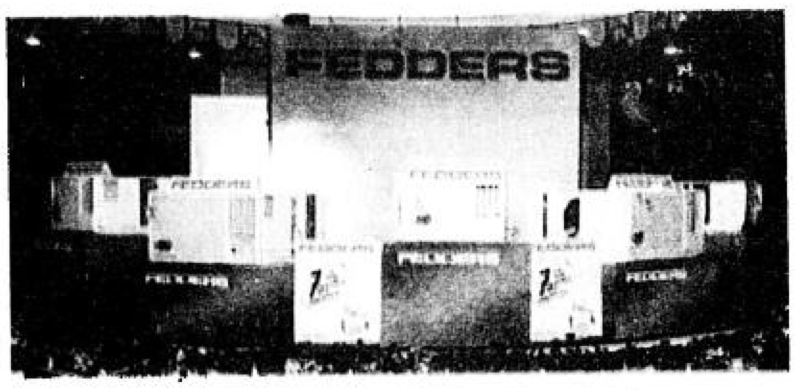
Model 85C 31X
60cms x 60cms

laGERMANIA

Also available: Ranges • Stoves • Range Hoods • Cook tops • Built-in Ovens and Washing Machines

BPI Express Credit and BPI MasterCard were the official credit cards of the PTAA Travel Tour Expo 2001 held March 2-4, 2001 at the Megatrade Halls 1 and 2, SM Megamall. Shown above during the contract signing are (standing, from left) Aileen Romuzo of House of Travel; Sandy P. Sierra, PTAA PRO and TTE 2001 publicity and promotions committee chair; Mila B. Suarez, PTAA VP for Outbound Travel and TTE 2001 assistant co-chair; Jojo Clemente III, PTAA VP for Inbound Tours and TTE 2001 hotels and resorts committee chair; Alice San Juan, PTAA past president and TTE 2001 sponsors and solicitations committee chair; Ricky V. Ordoñez, PTAA president and TTE 2001 activities and programs committee chair; Louise Aubin de Rosario, PTAA past trustee and TTE 2001 travel and shop committee chair; and Trippy, TTE mascot. Seated from left are Annette R. Feliciano, PTAA VP for administration and TTE 2001 co-chair; Josephine M. Ocampo, BPI Card Corporation president; Marilen P. Sandejas-Yaptangco, PTAA past president and TTE 2001 chair; and Andrew D. Cajucom, BPI Card Corporation marketing senior manager.

Fedders room air conditioner —real value for money



IN TIMES when prices are going nowhere but up, what people need is true value for their money. This is why Alen International Industrial Corporation, exclusive distributor of Fedders room air conditioners, guarantees to give you only the best in room air conditioning.

Known to be the no. 1 room aircon in the United States, Fedders room air conditioner assures you of not just exceptional performance but good quality as well. Loaded with features such as rust-resistant cabinet, quiet and efficient compressor, grooved copper tube, slide-out chassis, air sweep, high energy efficiency and cross ambient thermostat which automatically shuts off the compressor once the room temperature is achieved, thus enabling you to save in power consumption even more. Apart from this, Fedders has its US-made compressor to boast—certifying its durability. And it is likewise backed with a seven-year warranty, which translates to real value for your money.

Experience the coolness of Fedders room air conditioner in the following models: ¾ hp, 1.5 hp and 2 hp. Visit your nearest dealer or call 410-0101 or 413-6893 for inquiries.

Amana refrigerators give you nothing but the best

NOTHING'S better than indulging in good food. With this in mind, Alen International Industrial Corporation (AIIC), exclusive distributor of Amana home appliances, brings you its wide selection of refrigerators. Take a pick from its top mount, bottom mount and side-by-side models.

Amana refrigerators guarantee to keep your food fresh even longer. While most brands brag about elegant luxurious design, wider racks and shelves for bigger storage—Amana refrigerators have a whole lot of avant garde features to boast. Among these are:

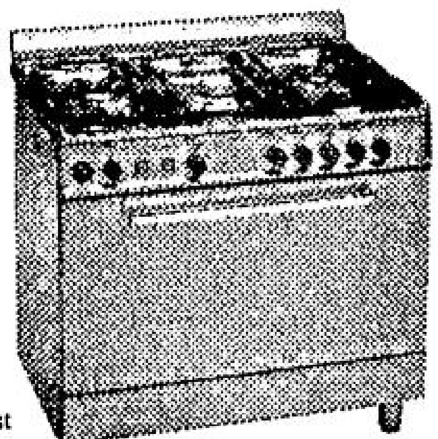
- An exclusive TempAssure control system which utilizes two separate thermostat that automatically maintains refrigerator and freezer temperature to make your food stay fresh even longer.
- Adjustable spill-saver shelves which are time savers and mess preventers. Also, there's an adjustable position deli drawer to give you easy access to your meat, cheese and deli items.
- The humidity-controlled garden fresh crisper automatically adjusts its temperature to the ideal setting that seals in the freshness of food.
- Enjoy safe, odor-free and great-tasting water straight form your Amana refrigerator. With its clean water filtration feature you are assured that all the chemicals like lead, chlorine, sediments and oysts are effectively removed from every ice cube and glass of chilled water you take.

Surely Amana refrigerators will give you nothing but the best. So rush now to your nearest dealer or call 410-0101, 413-6893 for inquiries.

Fedders price reduction promo extended

ALEN International Industrial Corporation, distributor of Fedders room airconditioners in the Philippines, extends its price discount promo on brand new units as it paves the way for a cooler summer this year. Customers will get a P2,000 discount on the 3/4 and 1 hp units, P2,500 off on the 1.5 hp units and P3,000 off on the 2 hp units. All units included in this promo are certified to have a seven-year warranty on their compressors to add better value for their money. This promo is extended up to March 31, 2001. Check out the units available and visit the BPI Madness at Glorietta from March 7 to 25 for free giveaways with every purchase of a Fedders room airconditioner.

The good life from Grande Cucina



THE PASSION to fulfill our desires is common in all of us. This is the very essence of the good life.

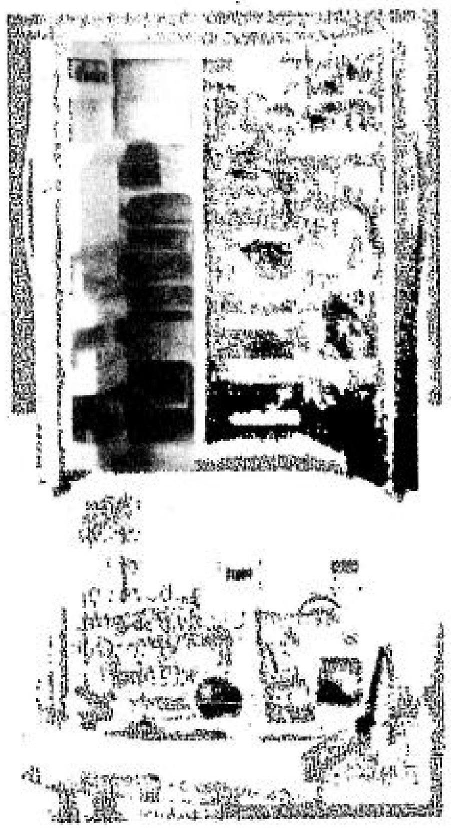
La Germania gives you the Grande Cucina, the cooking range that will match your enthusiasm for culinary perfection.

The Grande Cucina' A95C has all the characteristics that can meet your demands in the kitchen. It comes equipped with the latest and most advanced technologies to insure the finest results in cooking, with features such as:

- Cast iron trivets
- Spacious oven with rotisserie
- Electronic ignition for responsive flame ons
- Flame failure safety device
- Stainless steel oven door
- Cast iron pan support with rubber bumpers
- Stainless steel adjustable feet

The Grande Cucina is imported from Italy, and is distinctively made for the few who have the spirit for the good life. Isn't it time you discovered it yourself?

General Electric back at BPI Madness



GE's TFK30PFDWW 30 cu.ft side-by-side refrigerator. The unique GE refreshment offers convenient access to frequently used beverages or snacks.

FORTUNE Magazine's Most Admired Company makes a comeback in the Philippine market with the introduction of its high-end US-made refrigerators. For the first time ever in the Philippines, General Electric shall market its US-made side-by-side models whose capacities range from 20 cu.ft. to as much as 30 cu.ft.

It is a welcome and much anticipated development for the sophisticated consumer who looks for features in a refrigerator much more ahead of its time than just the no-frost cooling capability. For one, the side-by-side refrigerator's incredible capacity for food storage and space-saving features would mean greater convenience to the homemaker as lesser trips to the market would be needed. Adjustable, clear glass shelves offer extra convenience; special spill-proof shelves on selected models help contain spills and can be wiped off easily without cleaning the whole refrigerator.

As if the huge storage space weren't enough, selected GE refrigerators offer other convenience features such as the unique GE Refreshment Center, which presents easy access to frequently used beverages and snacks. No need to open the main refrigerator door, thereby saving energy.

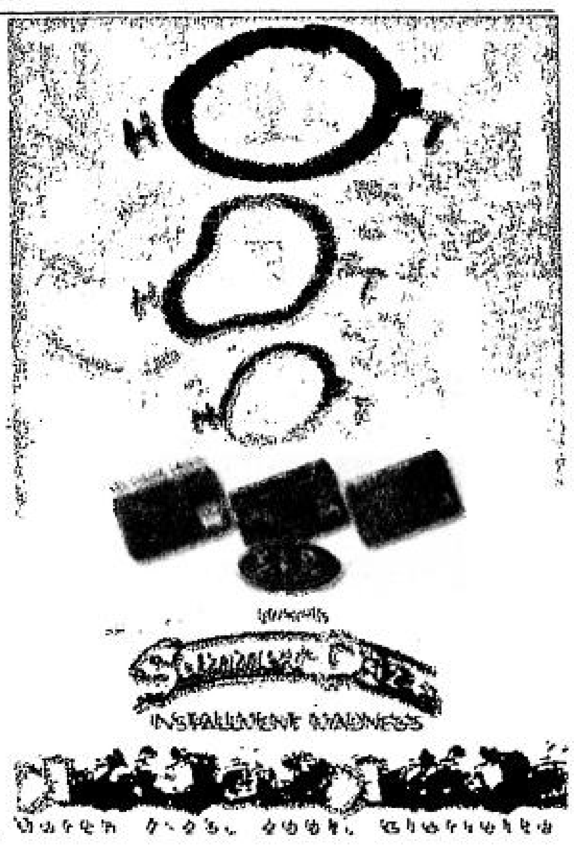
Selected GE side-by-side refrigerator models also offer the Light Touch dispenser, which dispenses cubes, crushed ice, or chilled water simply by touching the single pad. The dispenser's universal, functional symbols make it easy, even for a child, to use. With all the experience and technology gained from introducing the very first refrigerator with a water dispenser in 1969, the GE water and ice dispenser is more reliable than ever.

The consumers' eager anticipation of the latest GE refrigerator models in the Philippines stems from the proven quality that the household GE monogram has stood for. Consumers, in fact, have voted GE as a Superbrand in a study conducted by Reader's Digest in 2000. Based on this survey conducted in six key Asian markets (the Philippines included), on quality, value, strong image, trustworthiness, and understanding of consumer needs, GE came out both as Asia and the Philippines' Gold Award winner.

Aside from the prestigious Reader's Digest Award, GE has also garnered several other recognition from distinguished US sources. The Louis-Harris Poll of 1999 named GE as America's No. 1 Most Preferred Appliance Brand. Consumer survey findings published in September 1997 by Home Furnishings Network showed that GE is number one in appliance brand recognition. In both the US' affluent and mass market, according to the Stevenson Company's Survey of 1999, GE is no. 1 in terms of brand preference--beating the closest competitor 2 to 1.

Most recently, in Fortune Magazine's, March 5 issue this year, GE was ranked no. 1 among America's Most Admired Companies, beating other giants such as Microsoft, Wal-Mart, and Intel. GE has garnered the Fortune Award for the fourth consecutive year.

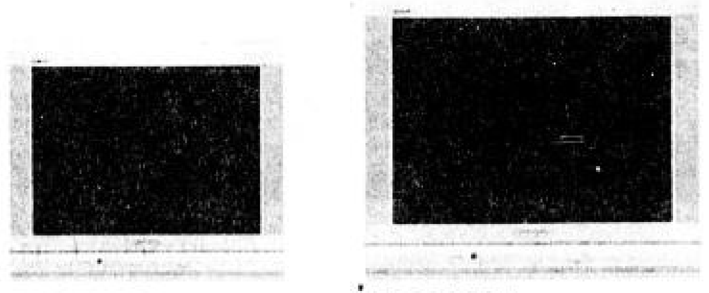
Consumers can catch a preview of the latest GE models in the Philippines in the upcoming BPI Installment Madness to be held March 7 to 25 at the Glorietta Center in Makati. Units will be pre-sold in the exhibit; reservations for the units scheduled to arrive in April shall be accepted. Other products on exhibit are the GE Upright Freezer and the GE Electric Ranges.



Your fave movie channel is broadcast in stereo.
Are you sure your Flat TV can handle it?

Panasonic
TC-21F3P
T [tau] FLAT DIGITAL

Not all Flat TVs can give you full stereo broadcast.
The Panasonic T (Tau) Flat TV can.



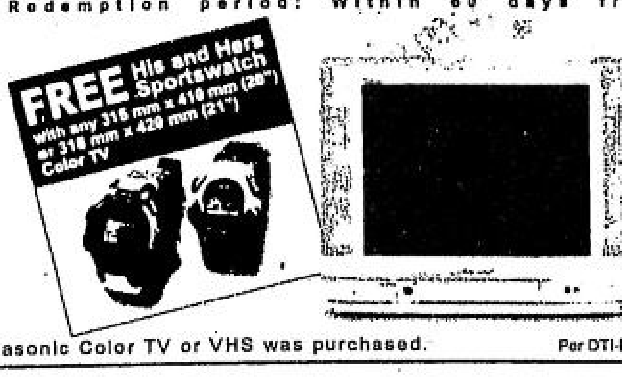
I like my Panasonic!
Belinda Panelo

Pounding excitement in stereo only from Panasonic T (Tau) Flat TV.
Before grabbing that real cool Flat TV, know that most cannot offer powerful sound in stereo. The Panasonic Tau Flat TV lets you enjoy the coolest Cable and TV programs in stereo. A larger chasis allows for larger speakers so you experience the pure power of sound. So when buying a Flat TV, make sure the sound doesn't leave you feeling flat. Go Panasonic Tau Flat Digital.

What's New by Panasonic

Redemption period: Within 60 days from end of promo period.

I like my Panasonic!
Cool Giveaways!
SEE STANDEES FOR MORE DETAILS.
Promo Period: Jan. 19 to Mar. 31, 2001


FREE His and Hers Sportswatch
with any 315 mm x 410 mm (29") or 318 mm x 420 mm (21") Color TV

FREE Sportsbag
with any VHS model

What's New by Panasonic
Present your proof of purchase to the authorized dealer representative where the Panasonic Color TV or VHS was purchased.
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0040, Series of 2001.

LIFESTYLES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES LIFESTYLES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES LIFESTYLES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

HOME Plus
FURNITURE
A DIVISION OF ABENSON

0% Interest Rates
6 months

BPI
SUMMER
DAZE

Free BEAN BAG
*LIVING ROOM SET 3-1-1 LEATHERETTE
BASE PRICE ₱8998 CARD ₱1499.67/mo.

Free BEAN BAG
*LIVING ROOM SET 3-1-1 FABRIC
BASE PRICE ₱10998 CARD ₱1833/mo.

Free FLOOR PILLOW
*ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
BASE PRICE ₱5998 CARD ₱999.67/mo.

Free FLOOR PILLOW
*ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
BASE PRICE ₱7498 CARD ₱1249.67/mo.

Free CELEBRATION VASE
*DRESSER W/ STOOL
₱4998 Straight

Free BEAN BAG
*DINING SET
BASE PRICE ₱8998 CARD ₱1499.67/mo.

Free FLOOR PILLOW
CENTER TABLE MOROCCO & SIDE TABLE MOROCCO
BASE PRICE ₱9600 CARD ₱1600/mo.

Free SHADOW VASE
SOFA TABLE MOROCCO
₱3600 Straight

Free SHADOW VASE
*BOOKCASE OPEN
₱1498 Straight
*BOOKCASE W/ GLASS
₱2098 Straight

Free SHADOW VASE
*ENTERTAINMENT CENTER
₱1998 Straight

Free CELEBRATION VASE
UTILITY CABINET
₱3548 Straight

Free CELEBRATION VASE
WARDROBE CABINET
₱4448 Straight

*CD RACK
SINGLE ₱598 DOUBLE ₱798
*Reduced rates only

PRICES ARE BASED ON 6-MONTHS 0% INTEREST TERMS
SPECIAL INSTALLMENT PLAN HAS A MINIMUM PURCHASE OF P5,000. Terms Available: 3, 6, 9, 12 & 24 Months Reduced Rates
*All accessories featured are not included
E-mail: abshmkt@the.net.ph
Per DTI - NCR Permit # 1202 & 1204 Series of 2001
Promo Period: March 7 to 25, 2001

ALABANG Zapote Road Tel. 850-8848
CAINTA Sta. Lucia Grand Mall Tel. 681-5301
CUBAO Rustans Tel. 911-2312
GALLERIA Robinsons Tel. 632-9101
PEARL PLAZA Tambo, Parañaque Tel. 854-8101
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA Mandaluyong Tel. 638-8017
MAKATI Pasong Tamo Tel. 813-4444
QUEZON CITY E. Rodriguez Tels. 724-2528
DASMARIÑAS Cavite Tel. (046) 416-1144
CARMONA Cavite Tel. (046) 430-2702
IMUS Cavite Tel. (046) 471-8020
LOTUS Imus, Cavite Tel. (046) 515-5751
BIÑAN Laguna Tel. (049) 411-4510
CALAMBA Laguna Tel. (049) 545-7027
SAN PABLO Laguna Tel. (049) 562-8242
SANTA ROSA Laguna Tel. (049) 549-1243
Now with 16 Branches to Serve You!

LIFESTYLES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES LIFESTYLES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES LIFESTYLES AT AFFORDABLE PRICES

BPI Card presents 'Summer Daze'

presents
Summer Daze
INSTALLMENT MADNESS
March 7-25, 2001, Glorietta

BPI Card Corporation is holding a variety of summer installment fairs under the banner Summer Daze Installment Madness. The said madness is BPI Card's 24th, and once again offers appliances, furniture and other gadgets, as well as travel, dining and shopping, at affordable rates.

The main Summer Daze Installment Madness, which offers appliances, furniture and gadgets, happens from March 7 to 25 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati City.

As in past appliance fairs, BPI Card is offering zero-percent interest on selected items and terms. The terms can be availed of in 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 or 24 months through the BPI credit card's Special Installment Plan (S.I.P.).

The summer installment fair also extends itself to the Travel Madness 2001. This travel promo allows cardholders the option to pay off their trips through S.I.P. Travel Madness runs from March 1 to December 15.

Also being held is the Great Dining Madness 2, which began last February 1 and ends on June 30. Cardholders can avail of special offerings provided by participating hotels, amusement centers, bars and restaurants using the card's S.I.P.

There is also the Shop and Tour raffle promo happening from February 9 to April 29 wherein BPI cardholders win prizes and tours in participating supermarkets.

The main event of BPI Card's summer extravaganza is the Appliance Madness which gathers top appliance, furniture, computer and gadget brands like Aiwa, American Home, Ariston, Concepcion-Carrier, JVL International, General Electric, JVC, Kolin, La Germania, LG Electronics, National/Panasonic, Philips, Pioneer, Sharp, Sony, Whirlpool, Daewoo, and Fisher and Paykel, Ambiance One, Blims and Homeplus, Electroworld, The Computer Authority (TCA) and Villman Computer Systems Inc. Other participants in Summer Daze are Globe Handyphone, Canon Cameras, Mitsukoshi Motorcycles and Home Cable.

Participating dealers are Abenson, Automatic Centre, Ansons, Ambassador Appliances, Waltermart, Sogo, SM Appliance and Western. The promo is extended to all Metro Manila branches of all participating dealers and selected S.I.P.-accredited merchants at Glorietta and Park Square 1.

Hotels: The Peninsula Manila • Century Park Hotel • Dusit Hotel Nikko • Hotel Inter-Continental Manila • Manila Diamond Hotel • Mandarin Oriental Manila • The Westin Philippine Plaza **Bars & Restaurants:** Angelino's • Annabel's • Antonelli's • Aqua • Aresi • Beverly Hills Deli & Café • Bistro Lorenzo • Bistro Remedios • Burgoo • Café Adriatico 1900 • Café Adriatico Premiere • Chateau 1771 • Casa Armas • Congo Grill • California Pizza Kitchen • Cravings • DC Diner • Don Henricos • Fu Lin Garden • Furusato • Gasoline Alley • Gerry's Grille • Glass House • Gourmet's Café • Harbor View • Il Ponticello • Jade Garden • Kimpura • La Primavera • Mario's • Mingoy's • Motoyori • Nandau • Nipa Hut Restaurant • Peking Garden • Portico • Sidebar • Soleil • Stars Bar & Dining • Stonegrill • Streetlife • Sugarhouse • Sugi Japanese Restaurant • Tequila Joe's Restaurant & Bar • The China Pearl • Tong Yang Hot Pot • Wasabi Bistro & Saki Bar • Whistlestop **Party Amusement Centers:** Dreamscape • Dreamtown • Storyland • Enchanted Kingdom

Travel Destinations: Hong Kong • China • Bangkok • Beijing • Tokyo • Sydney • Melbourne • Gold Coast • Guam • Palau • Honolulu Disney Tours • Canada • Rome • Germany • Boracay • Iloilo • Davao • Legazpi • Palawan • Puerto Princesa

Appliance Manufacturers: Aiwa • American Home • Ariston • Concepcion-Carrier • Daewoo • Fisher & Paykel • General Electric • JVL International • JVC • Kolin • La Germania • LG Electronics • National/Panasonic • Philips • Pioneer • Sharp • Sony • Whirlpool **Furniture:** Ambiance One • Blims • Homeplus **Computers:** Electroworld • The Computer Authority (TCA) • Villman Computer Systems Inc. **Others:** Globe Handyphone • Canon Cameras • Home Cable • Mitsukoshi Motorcycles **Appliance dealers:** Abenson • Ambassador • Ansons • Automatic Centre • SM Appliance • Sogo • Waltermart • Western Marketing

Home Plus gets you into the madness

NOTHING brings the hottest team-up than the maddening summer. Home Plus, your lifestyle furniture at affordable prices, once again pairs off with BPI Express Credit to bring extra zest to this year's Summer Daze BPI Madness. You can now purchase your furniture pieces at zero-percent interest rate in a six-month easy payment scheme.

Heat things up in the kitchen for new Home Plus dining room sets and kitchen accessories. Burn the night away in your bedroom. Or simply warm up the living room area. After all, your dream furniture items are within your reach through BPI Express Credit cards.

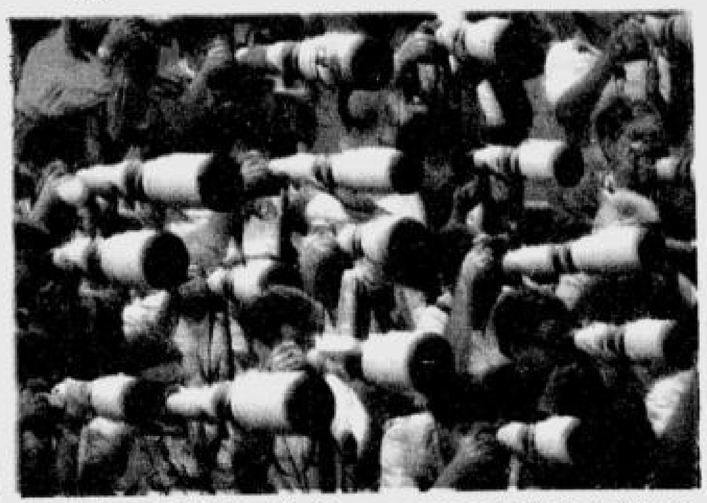
Cool off at the Home Plus outlets inside an Abenson branch nearest you and get into the madness. It's your best move come summer time. BPI's Summer Daze Installment Madness is from March 7 to 25 only.

Canon changes the way . . .

(From page F8)

to that obtained with a 80mm lens mounted on a 35mm camera.

If you're afraid to shift from 35mm to digital, this might give you that confidence. Photographers need not worry. If you're wondering what SLR digital camera to buy, think no more. With the EOS D30 you get a Canon SLR digital camera and use a Canon lens. That makes a difference when you're taking captivating images and manipulating them with the computer. Now you can use your existing lineup of EF lenses with a 35mm EOS or an EOS D30 digital camera.



PHOTOGRAPHERS with Canon cameras and zoom lenses. Cumulative production of Canon EF lenses has now reached 20 million since Canon started making the EF lenses in 1987 for EOS cameras.

You are given the luxury to choose which type of lens would best express creativity and artistic talent. At present, Canon has over 50 types of EF lens, the largest lineup in the industry. This wide variety of EF lenses ranges in focal length from 14mm super-wide-angle to 12mm super-telephotos and also includes standard zoom lenses and telephoto zoom lenses, large-aperture lenses, and TS-E lenses with perspective control. It is so popular with a wide variety of camera users, ranging from professional photographers to amateurs and beginners.

In fact, cumulative production of Canon EF lenses has now reached 20 million. Production of the EF lens line began at Canon's Utsunomiya factory in 1987, when EF lenses were produced as interchangeable lenses for single-lens reflex EOS cameras. In August 1995, production figures topped the 1-million mark and in only five and a half years, the 20-million mark was reached.

Canon inaugurated the EF lens line in 1987, using unique technologies that focused on the future of AF systems, such as large-diameter, fully-electronic mounts and lens-incorporated motor drives. In November 1987, Canon released the EF300mm f/2.8L USM, which was the first lens in the world to incorporate the ultrasonic motor, and in September 1989, they introduced the EF50mm f/1.0L USM, which had the largest aperture (f/1.0) of any AF SLR lens in the world. Then, in September 1995, Canon released the EF75-300mm f/4-5.6 IS USM, the world's first SLR lens equipped with an image stabilizer. Thus, Canon came to lead the industry with its revolutionary technology. In September 2000, Canon developed the world's first diffractive optical element for photographic lenses, At present, it is preparing to launch the compact, lightweight and high-resolution EF400mm f/4 DO IS USM.

Some people, however, do not require a wide range of lenses to take digital images. What these folks need is a camera that has the full features of an SLR camera. Canon also introduced this year the PowerShot G1. It's a 3.3 megapixel camera that is very flexible. You can choose whether to shoot in the "fully automatic" or the "fully manual" modes. The G1 gives you tremendous room for anything from candid snapshots to photographic experiments—your imagination alone is the limit.

Canon will continue to revolutionize optical design, electronic technology and industrial science, developing appealing products that capture the needs of camera users, and carving out the future of visual expression. Photographers who are presently enjoying the immense power of expression offered by the Canon EF lenses and their Canon 35mm SLRs can readily shift into digital. These photographers can now maximize even more their creativity using computers and imaging software. The advantage of owning a Canon EOS D30 digital camera is that you have a Canon SLR digital camera that you can use with all Canon EF lenses. While having a PowerShot G1 offers almost same creative possibilities a SLR camera can give.

A summer to remember

HOW about making it a summer to remember?

Summer seems to be a heaven-sent season for everyone. Leisure is obviously the order of the day. Aside from providing recreation, summer also has rewards. We are thinking of the young ones who have graduated or finished the school year with exemplary results. It is time to give in to their requests: a new audio-video system, a new computer or a new CD shelf—the better to enjoy summer indoors.

Well, relaxation and reward certainly go hand-in-hand at BPI's 24th Installment Madness, Summerdaze, happening from March 7 to 25 at the Glorietta, Ayala Center, Makati City.

Now you can give in to their requests because, aside from having all the choices under one roof, there is zero-percent interest on selected items and terms. Because the BPI credit card (BPI Express Credit and BPI MasterCard) comes with two credit lines (one for everyday purchases, the other called S.I.P. or Special Installment Plan which can be used for buying high-ticket items), you can shop with confidence. Moreover, you can choose the terms, 3, 6, 9, 12, 18 and 24 months.

Participating appliance brands are Aiwa, American Home, Ariston, Concepcion-Carrier, JVL International, General Electric, JVC, Kolin, La Germania, LG Electronics, National/Panasonic, Philips, Pioneer, Sharp, Sony, Whirlpool, Daewoo, and Fisher and Paykel.

For furniture, there are Ambiance One, Blims and Homeplus. Computers are courtesy of Electroworld, The Computer Authority (TCA) and Villman Computer Systems Inc. Other participants are Globe Handyphone, Canon Cameras, Mitsukoshi Motorcycles and Home Cable.

Participating dealers are Abenson, Automatic Centre, Ansons, Ambassador Appliances, Waltermart, Sogo, SM Appliance and Western. The good news is, the promo is extended to all Metro Manila branches of all participating dealers and selected S.I.P.-accredited merchants at Glorietta and Park Square 1.

Making a purchase is just among the features of Summer Daze. There, you can also apply for a BPI credit card, and request for an extension or an increase in credit limit.

Making this a summer to remember is so easy to do. All you'll need is the BPI credit card and you can make things happen.

Summer Daze
Installment Madness

Mad about dining

FOODIES everywhere will be glad to know that BPI Card is holding "The Great Dining Madness 2" from February 1 to June 30, 2001 in 61 participating bars and restaurants, party and amusement centers, and hotels.

BPI Express Credit and BPI MasterCard holders, especially those from Metro Manila, Cebu, Davao, Bacolod and Iloilo, can avail of the Madness by using their BPI credit card either through straight charge or S.I.P. (special installment plan).

Those availing of the Great Dining Madness can also charge their party packages and banquet celebrations, both participating and non-participating Dining Madness, to the S.I.P.

The participating establishments of the Great Dining Madness are: Angelino's, Annabel's, Antonelli's, Anything Goes at Burgoo, Aqua, Aressi, Beverly Hills Deli & Café, Bistro Lorenzo, Bistro Remedios, Café Adriatico 1900, Café Adriatico Premiere, Café Havana, Chateau 1771, California Pizza Kitchen, Casa Armas, Congo Grill, Century Park Hotel, Cravings Restaurant and Café, DC Diner, Don Henrico's, Dreamscape, DreamTown, Dusit Hotel Nikko, Enchanted Kingdom, Fu Lin Garden, Furusato, Gasoline Alley, Gerry's Grill, Glass House, Gourmet's Café, Harbor View Restaurant, Hotel Intercontinental, IL Ponticello, Jade Garden, Kimpura, La Primavera, Mandarin Oriental, Manila Diamond Hotel, Mario's, Mingoy's, Motoyori, Nandau, New Kamameshi House, Nipa Hut Restaurant, Peking Garden, Portico, Sidebar Café, Soleil, Stars Bar & Dining, Storyland Adventure, Streetlife, Sugarhouse, Stonegrill, SUGI, Tequila Joe's, The China Pearl, The Peninsula Manila, Tong Yang Hotpot, Wasabi Bistro & Sake Bar, Westin Philippine Plaza, and Whistle Stop.

Italian appliances to lust for

ARISTON

REFRIGERATORS • DISHWASHERS • WASHING MACHINES • CHEST FREEZERS
FREE STANDING COOKERS • RANGEHOODS AND BUILT IN APPLIANCES

4th Level, Shangri-La Plaza • Tel. [illegible] • Telefax [illegible]
5th Level, SM Megamall • Telefax [illegible]
Anson's Arcade, Pasay Road Makati • Tel. [illegible]
3 Year Warranty

www.aristonchannel.com

Our new Real Flat TV.
What a scene-stealer.

Real Flat Picture Tube •
Double Window •
Incredible Picture •
Incredible Surround •
Anti Reflection Coating •
Active Subwoofer •

MATCHLINE
21" MATCHLINE
29"
29" POWERVISION

The Philips Matchline 29" Real Flat TV deserves the limelight.

Philips presents another technological wonder — the Philips Matchline 29" Real Flat TV. It combines the latest in audio-visual technology with the coolest design. While its Real Flat Picture Tube displays perfect pictures from any angle, its cutting edge design looks great in our home. That's why the Philips Matchline Real Flat TV is a truly exciting home cinema experience. We've got to admit, things are getting better...

4x3 EXPAND
SMART SOUND CONTROLS
SMART PICTURE CONTROLS
service

PHILIPS
Let's make things better.

Visit the Philips Booth at the 24th BPI Installment Madness, Activity Center, Glorietta, Makati City on March 7 to 25, 2001.

Canon
DIGITAL IXUS
The world's smallest digital camera.
2.11 megapixel CCD
High resolution Canon lens
2x optical, 8x digital zoom
Superb features with USB port
Bright LCD display
Optical viewfinder
Sensational metal style
Surprisingly affordable
Why Canon?
Because a digital camera is still a camera
DIGITAL IXUS
NTSC model known as DIGITAL ELPH

CANON MARKETING PHILIPPINES, INC., Marvin Plaza Bldg. 2153 Don Chino Roces Avenue, Makati City. TEL. 8126047 / 892-6449 FAX: 812-0067
E-mail address: cmp_sales@canon.com.ph INTERNET: http://www.canon.com.ph
Exclusive distributor: Super East Asia Ents. Inc., 17/F Penthouse Riviera Mansion, 1638 A. Mabini St., Malate, Manila. Tel. nos. 303-2519 / 524-4604, e-mail: se_asia@quantumweb.net

Canon changes the way you see the world

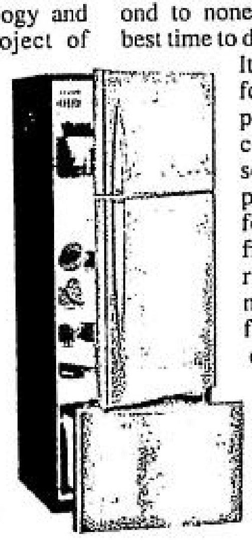
THE EOS D30, Canon's top-of-the-line digital SLR camera, is compatible with all the Canon EF lenses and Speedlite EX flash.

WHEN it comes to creative possibilities there is no equal to single lens reflex (SLR) cameras. Photographers can portray the world as they see it or they can manipulate what they see and create a whole new picture. This is possible because of the many features of SLR cameras with interchangeable lenses. Canon's EOS cameras are number one worldwide when it comes to SLRs. Thanks to its intensive research and development Canon continues to innovate in the field of photography.

This year, Canon adds another breakthrough product to its EOS lineup. This time it combines the EOS technology with digital technology, thus the EOS D30 digital SLR camera is born. The new Canon EOS D30 not only inherits the superior handling of the conventional EOS series, but also retains its EF mount. The entire EF lens range, so highly valued by professional photographers the world over for its excellent optical performance and portability, can now be fully utilized with the EOS D30. Compared to a conventional 35mm camera, the effective focal length of an EF lens mounted on the EOS D30 is approximately 1.6 times the focal length marked on the lens. A 50mm lens mounted on an EOS D30, for example, gives a viewing angle almost equivalent

CANON/ F6

The Quantum Product



TO INNOVATE with greater freedom and be a leader in technology and design. The Quantum Project of Fisher & Paykel speaks of pushing the boundaries of technology, where technical complexity is controlled with utmost simplicity and beneath its aesthetic contours lies the world's most advanced technology driving each product to perform standard excellence while recognizing the value of our environment.

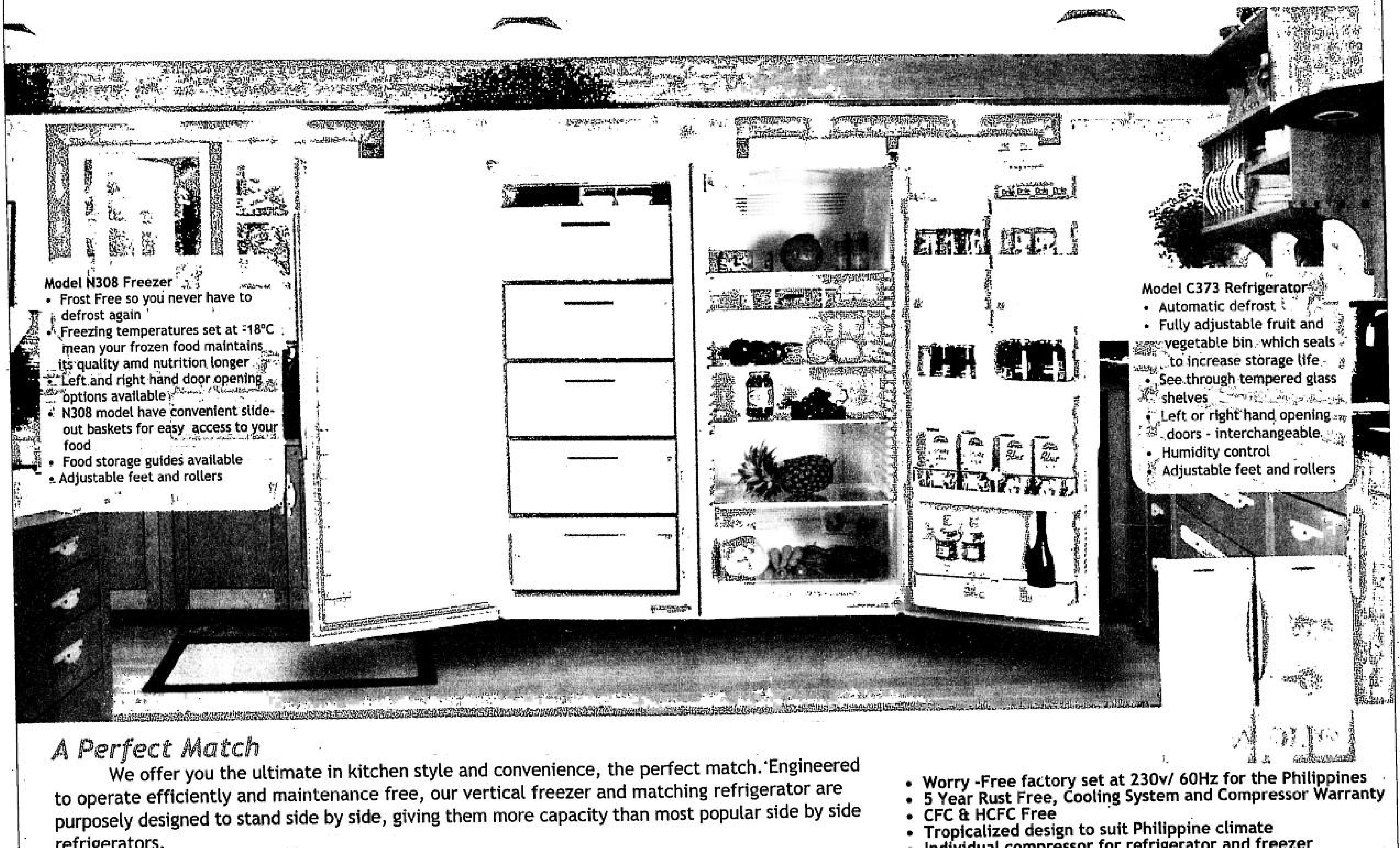
The power of Inox

Liberating our traditional kitchen style, Inox is where intelligence meets beauty and practicality.

Inox's intelligent microprocessor creates the perfect climate to care for your food. Compartments are cooled completely using two variable speed fans which are controlled by the microprocessor making temperature accuracy and speed of cooling, second to none. Inox also knows the best time to defrost and for how long. It knows how to do more for less, using up to 40 percent less energy than competitive models. It is so smart that it detects the presence of unchilled food and quickly cools or freezes it to prevent deterioration and preserve nutrients and minerals. In fact, Inox individually controls the climate within the vegetable bin slowing down the ripening of fruits and keeping vegetables fresher, longer.

The beauty of Inox starts in its stainless steel exterior for that unique and stylish kitchen. Inside are halogen lighting and clear glass and aluminum shelves that create a sense of space and order. Extra wide door shelving accommodates the needs of modern families.

Perfect Match For You.
For Your Kitchen.


Model N308 Freezer
- Frost Free so you never have to defrost again
- Freezing temperatures set at -18°C mean your frozen food maintains its quality amd nutrition longer
- Left and right hand door opening options available
- N308 model have convenient slide-out baskets for easy access to your food
- Food storage guides available
- Adjustable feet and rollers

Model C373 Refrigerator
- Automatic defrost
- Fully adjustable fruit and vegetable bin which seals to increase storage life
- See through tempered glass shelves
- Left or right hand opening doors - interchangeable
- Humidity control
- Adjustable feet and rollers

A Perfect Match

We offer you the ultimate in kitchen style and convenience, the perfect match. Engineered to operate efficiently and maintenance free, our vertical freezer and matching refrigerator are purposely designed to stand side by side, giving them more capacity than most popular side by side refrigerators.

- Worry -Free factory set at 230v/ 60Hz for the Philippines
- 5 Year Rust Free, Cooling System and Compressor Warranty
- CFC & HCFC Free
- Tropicalized design to suit Philippine climate
- Individual compressor for refrigerator and freezer

www.fp.co.nz

For info call tel. no. 564-15-21 Visit the Showrooms at: 5th level SM Megamall • Escolta cor. Nueva St., Manila
• SM Appliance Center, SM Southmall • 2nd Flr. Anson's Emporium, Pasay Road, Makati

Fisher & Paykel
Premium Appliances from New Zealand